

**BARODA
ADMINISTRATION
REPORT.**

1925-26.

Published by order of His Highness the Maharaja Gaekwar.

Baroda Administration Report 1925-26



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BARODA,

31st December 1926.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESS,

I have the honour to submit the State Administration Report for the year 1925-26.

The agricultural season throughout the State for the year was less favourable than usual. The rainfall in the Kadi District fell short of the average by almost one-half and in Navasari and Amreli did not exceed two-thirds the usual amount. The monsoon, moreover, was unevenly distributed and, on the whole, was not encouraging. The problem of drinking water supply for the City of Baroda remained acute, and the hours of supply had to be cut short to economise the quantity available in the Sayaji Sarowar.

The financial condition of the State, however, remained quite satisfactory. The amount of revenue collections from various sources exceeded Rs. 2,37,06,000 while the total expenditure was Rs. 1,97,73,245 as against Rs. 1,94,31,175 of last year. The surplus balance on hand at the end of the year was Rs. 39,33,547 as against Rs. 50,00,000 last year. With the addition of this surplus the general financial condition of the State improved by about Rs. 39,00,000 ; the total net financial assets being Rs. 8,40,89,872.

As I am shortly relinquishing the reins of my exalted office, the present opportunity tempts me to take stock of the progress achieved by the State during the last eleven years that I have been at the helm of affairs in the State. Such a retrospect would, it is hoped, be useful for guidance in future.

The total revenues of the State in 1915-16 were Rs. 1,90,90,540 and the expenditure amounted to Rs. 1,48,01,426; thus showing that while the income has increased during the past decennium by 26 per cent., the expenditure has leapt up by 32 per cent.

Taking only a few of the nation-building activities of the administration we find that whereas in 1915-16 Education absorbed only Rs. 18,34,809 of the Budget, we spent Rs. 31,35,215 on Education in 1925-26. The number of

Educational Institutions and of the children taking advantage of educational facilities showing only slight variation, being 2,719 institutions in 1916 as compared to 2,976 last year, with 2,58,248 children in 1916 as against 2,13,639 now. There are now 24 High Schools teaching upto the School Leaving Examination Standard in the Raj.

The number of Libraries which was 467 with 52 Reading Rooms in 1915-16 has now gone upto 645 Libraries and 87 Reading Rooms.

The total number of Medical Institutions in 1915-16 was 59 and provided medical relief through one institution for 36,958 souls. The Medical Department spent Rs. 3,02,952 per year a decade ago. To-day there are 87 Medical Institutions, providing one centre of medical relief for 24,409 souls; and spend Rs. 6,86,730 per annum. There are 19 mid-wives and five General Maternity Hospitals now as against 12 mid-wives and one Maternity Hospital in 1915.

The number of Cotton Spinning and Weaving Mills in 1915 was four; to-day there are 12 Mills working, two in liquidation and one did not materialise owing to trade depression.

Co-operation has also made steady progress. The number of Co-operative Societies in 1916 was 336, with a total membership of 10,620, a working capital of Rs. 9,51,191 and a Reserve Fund of Rs. 98,591. To-day there are 731 Societies, with a membership of 24,808, a working capital of Rs. 37,97,609 and a Reserve Fund of Rs. 5,43,218. The amount of private deposits attracted by these Societies has risen from Rs. 3,19,375 to Rs. 20,85,689 during the last decade.

Eleven towns now enjoy a supply of potable and sanitary water from works specially undertaken under the grant-in-aid system, and the same necessary essential of life has been availed of by eight villages in the Shinor Taluka. The Pratappura Tank project for supplementing the Sayaji Sarowar Water Supply for the City is being commenced this year at a cost of about Rs. 4,00,000.

Seven artesian wells have by this time been sunk in the Chanasma Taluka of the Kadi District where plentiful supply of subterranean water can be tapped at a depth of about 400 feet. Many other wells with sub-artesian flow of water were tapped in that District and the village water supply which was till now precarious has been satisfactorily assured.

The length of Railways constructed by the State was 486 miles in 1916 and the State derived a net revenue of Rs. 9,06,167 on the capital invested in Railways, which amounted to Rs. 2,40,00,000. The mileage of Railways during the period under report rose to 670 with a net revenue of Rs. 14,11,090 on the total capital investment of Rs. 4,46,98,803 giving a return of about 3.15 per cent.

Good progress has been made in the way of Road Construction in the Amreli and Okhamandal Districts and also in the Navsari District during the last three years. The Baroda District roads next await systematic handling. The Kadi District alone does not lend itself to the construction or maintenance of roads at a reasonable cost.

Port Okha has been recently opened by Your Highness and gives a fair promise of being a remunerative work. It cost about Rs. 23 lakhs in construction while the revenues anticipated in this very first year will perhaps not fall below Rs. 6 lakhs.

Since the extermination of the turbulent gangs of outlaws under Mirkhan in the Kadi District, and Babar Deva in the Baroda District, there has been perfect security of person and property throughout the Raj. Our civil and criminal judiciary continues to evoke respect and commands confidence of the people.

With this brief account of my stewardship, I beg to close this my last Report of the Baroda State Administration and trust it will meet with Your Highness' approval.

I remain,

Your Highness' most obedient servant,

MANUBHAI NANDSHANKAR.

Dewan.

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Baroda Administration Report

CHAPTER I

GENERAL AND POLITICAL

A. The State of Baroda in 1925-26

1. The State of Baroda, comprising an area of 8,135.2 square miles, is situated in the province of Gujarat, in five distinct territorial blocks, cut off from each other by large tracts of British territory or of other Indian States. All the four large rivers of this province, namely the Tapti, the Narmada, the Mahi and the Sabarmati, with their several tributaries drain their waters through the territory. The southern district of Naosari lies north and south of the river Tapti, and is interlaced with villages under the Surat Collectorate, stretching itself in the east to the Khandesh Zilla. It has an area of 1,810.6 square miles, with a population of 3,40,372; and like the other districts is under the administrative control of a Suba whose head-quarters are at the town of Naosari, so well-known as the home of the intelligent and enterprising Parsi community.

The river Narmada with its picturesque coast forms the southern boundary of the Baroda district which contains the capital of the Raj, Baroda, a city of fine palaces and buildings, of roads well laid out, and parks and recreation grounds, finely designed, with flourishing institutions of educative value. This district has an area of 1,922 square miles, and a population of 7,07,512.

Further up to the north of Ahmedabad lies the largest of the districts, Kadi, with its historical towns of Pattan and Sidhpur of the middle ages fame, and numerous archæological remains of great value. It has an area of 3,050 square miles,

and a population of 9,00,578. Its head-quarters are located at Mehsana, a rising little town of great potential importance, situated as it is on the R. M. Railway, almost in the centre of the district.

Far to the west in Kathiawar lie tracts of land isolated from each other, comprising the divisions of Amreli and Okhamandal with 1,077.4 square miles and 275.2 square miles of area and 1,52,585 and 25,475 souls as population respectively. Dwarka, the head-quarters of Okhamandal, is a place of pilgrimage of all India renown.

2. The following table gives the area and the population with the number of towns and villages in each district :—

Districts.	Area in square Miles.	Population returned in 1921.	Number of towns.	Number of inhabited villages.
1	2	3	4	5
Baroda	1,922	7,07,512	19	820
Kadi	3,050	9,00,578	15	1 036
Navsari	1,810.6	3,40,372	8	676
Amreli	1,077.4	1,52,585	4	242
Okhamandal	275.2	25,475	2	41
Total...	8,135.2	21,26,522	48	2,815

3. Out of a total population of over two millions more than four-fifths or 17,42,160 were Hindus, while the Mahomedans numbered 1,62,320 or about 8 per cent. Tribes of Animistic faiths numbered 1,63,077 according to the latest census, while the numbers of the Jains, the Parsis and the Christians were returned as 43,223, 7,530 and 7,421 respectively.

Thus almost all the religious denominations of India are found in the State. The spread of modern education and of liberal ideas is steadily softening the edges and angularities of different faiths and the resulting broad sense of toleration reduces the chances of religious tension which was never very acute in the State.

4. The chief occupation of the people is agriculture.

According to the latest census, the percentage of the population in relation to the different main occupations is as follows :—

Occupation.	Percent.
1. Exploitation of animals and vegetation	66·4
2. Industry	11·9
3. Transport... ..	1·3
4. Trade	6·7
5. Public Force	1·1
6. Public Administration	2·0
7. Professions and Liberal Arts	3·3
8. Persons living on their own income	0·6
9. Domestic service	0·3
10. Insufficiently described occupation	5·9
11. Unproductive	0·5

B. The Central Administration.

5. His Highness the Maharaja Shri Sayajirao III being

the fountain-head of all power, authority and justice in the State, has invested the Executive Council with powers of administration, reserving to himself certain powers of the utmost significance. Sir Manubhai Nandshanker Mehta, Kt., C.S.I., M.A., LL.B., continued to be the President of the Council in his capacity as the Minister of the Baroda State, and as such exercised general supervision and control over the whole administration with the help of three Naib Dewans and conducted the affairs of the Political Office which dealt with questions of relations of the State with the British Government and the other Indian States.

The system of administration continued as in the preceding year. Shrimant Dewan Bahadur Ganpatrao Gaekwad, Bar-at-law, worked as the Naib Dewan and the First Councillor, Rao Bahadur Govindbhai H. Desai, B.A., LL.B., as the Naib Dewan and the Second Councillor, and Rao Bahadur G. B. Ambegaokar, B.A., LL.B., as the Naib Dewan and the Third Councillor.

The Huzur Central Office dealt with questions of administration coming up from various departments, submitted them to the Ministers or to the Council for orders, and conveyed the orders to the departments concerned for execution. The Central Office has been composed of three sections, Judicial, Revenue and Inspection, developed on Secretariat basis, each under an Assistant to the Ministers.

6. The Huzur Central Office received from the departments 3,115 cases, out of which 2,823 were disposed of leaving a balance of 292 at the end of the year. It also disposed of 14,399 miscellaneous references and 1,916 applications.

Work done by the Huzur Central Office.

7. With the Dewan, Sir Manubhai as President, and Shrimant Dewan Bahadur Ganpatrao Gaekwad as the First Councillor, the Council had in all four members at the end of the year, R. B. Govindbhai H. Desai and R. B. G. B. Ambegaokar being the other two members. The Assistant to the Ministers, responsible for their Sections, continued to work as Secretaries to the Council for cases falling under their respective Sections.

Composition.

8. The Council held 34 meetings as against 27 in the previous year. The total number of cases coming up for consideration by the Council for the year was 1,205 against 1,075 of the previous year. Of these 1,139 were disposed of, leaving a balance of 66 as against 75 of the previous year. Out of the matters disposed of, 976 cases were dealt with by the Council, within its own powers, 12 were disposed of under powers delegated

Work of the Council.

by His Highness the Maharaja Saheb, and 151 were submitted to His Highness with the opinion of the Council. 4 cases were referred back by His Highness to the Council for disposal as against 1 in the previous year. All the regular official cases going to His Highness for decision have to be considered by the Council and with its opinion recorded thereon, the cases are forwarded to the Huzur Kamdar's Office, which submits them to His Highness.

9. Rao Bahadur G. B. Ambegaokar, B.A., LL.B., held the post of the Huzur Kamdar from the Huzur Kamdar. beginning of the year till 16th March 1926, when he was transferred to the Judicial Department as Chief Justice of the Varisht Court. During the period he was Huzur Kamdar, he also acted as Naeb Dewan and worked as a member of the State Executive Council. With the return of His Highness the Maharaja Saheb from Europe, the work in the Huzur Kamdar's Office increased and R.B. Ambegaokar was, therefore, relieved of his duties of Naeb Dewan. On his transfer to the Judicial Department, H. E. the Dewan Saheb held the charge of the Huzur Kamdar's post till 16th June 1926, when R. B. Ambegaokar was re-appointed Huzur Kamdar and an additional member of the Executive Council. Since that date he continued to hold the appointment till the end of the year. He has been nominated as an official member to the State Legislative Council for a period of three years from the 27th June 1926.

10. Another body in connection with the Central Administration is the Auction Committee, which Auction Committee and its powers. consists of one Naeb Dewan as its president, one member from the Sardar or Assamdar class, the Head of the Department at whose instance the auction is being held, and his Assistant. The Committee has the powers to confirm the final bids in the auction relating to any Department in the City of Baroda, upto the value of Rs. 15,000 in the case of immoveable property and Rs. 1,00,000 in the case of moveable property.

11. As a rule, the highest bid or the lowest tender is accepted at the auction, but in some cases if the Committee is convinced that the highest bidder would not be able to fulfil the contract, the Committee uses its discretion and sanctions the tender of the next reliable bidder. In 3 cases out of 85 it dealt with, the highest bidder had to be set aside.

12. During the year, the Committee held auctions in 85 cases. The main auctions related to the Military, Public Works, Khangi and Education Departments.

13. Besides these, the Legislative Council, an Advisory Body which helps Government in the work of legislation, the Huzur Nyaya Sabha, which advises His Highness in the exercise of appellate and revisional jurisdiction, and the Khata Nihaya Sadar Adalat, the highest Departmental tribunal, all form a part of the Central Administration, but because of the nature of their work, are dealt with separately in connection with the section on the administration of justice.

C. Palace.

14. His Highness the Maharaja Sahib stayed in Europe till November 1925, when he sailed for India. His Highness' long and continued stay in Europe, for reasons of ill health, had become a source of care and anxiety to his loyal subjects, who were very anxious to have him in their midst. Naturally, therefore the announcement of the date of his arrival in India was received with great joy throughout the State.

15. On Friday, 26th November 1925 His Highness arrived at Bombay per S.S. "Ranpura". The arrival being public, His Highness was received at the Mole by the Resident-Deputy-Secretary and an A.D.C. to H. E. the

Governor of Bombay on behalf of the Government of India. After inspecting the Guard of Honour, His Highness drove to the Jay Mahal Palace. The Maratha Samaj, Bombay, presented an address of welcome to him and along with other numerous Public Bodies of Bombay gave Pansupari to His Highness. In the evening, His Highness was entertained to tea at the Willingdon Club.

16. At 10-30 P.M. on the same day, His Highness left Bombay for Baroda by a special train and arrived in Baroda the next morning.

His arrival in Baroda.
 • As in Bombay, His Highness' arrival was public and preparations were made on a very large scale to accord him a hearty welcome. Early in the morning, State and Residency officers, Sardars, and prominent members of the gentry had gone to the railway station to receive His Highness and pay their respects to him on arrival. At 9 A.M., the special train carrying His Highness and party steamed in and as he alighted from the train both the British and State Guards of Honour presented arms and a salute of 21 guns was fired by the British battery stationed in the Cantonment. It was followed by the State artillery which fired a similar salute. His Highness was received by the Resident, who introduced to him his staff and other British officers. The Minister then introduced to His Highness the Sardars and State officers, who made their usual Muzaras to him. After inspecting the Guards of Honour supplied by the 1/8th Punjab Regiment and the State Forces in company of the Resident, His Highness drove in state to the L. V. Palace.

17. In the afternoon, a grand Durbar was held at the L. V. Palace, at which the Baroda Municipality and the four District Boards presented addresses of welcome to His Highness. To these, His Highness replied collectively and the Durbar was terminated after the distribution of Pan and attar.

18. His Highness was in excellent health. The bracing climate of Europe had had a very refreshing and agreeable effect upon his constitution, and after the necessary rest of a day or two, he began to attend to the usual administrative work. As he was out of his State for more than eighteen months, His Highness was anxious to see the condition of his subjects and hear in person their grievances. District tours were, therefore, ordered to be arranged.

19. His Highness first visited Dabhoi, where he performed the opening ceremony of Shrimant Dabhoi and Sankheda. Ganpatrao Gaekwad Boarding House. After a stay of twenty-four hours at Dabhoi, His Highness returned to Baroda on the 14th December 1925. While at Dabhoi, His Highness paid a flying visit to Bahadarpur and Sankheda.

20. On December 16, 1925, His Highness proceeded to Vaghodia & Saoli. Vaghodia in a motor car, and visited Karmaliya, Ajwa and other surrounding places and returned to the camp in the evening, whence he returned to Baroda the next day. Two days later, His Highness left Baroda for Saoli, and spent a day there inspecting local conditions. After having a hunting excursion in the vicinity, His Highness returned to Baroda on December 22, 1925.

21. After ten days, His Highness resumed his district tours. On the 1st of January, His Highness went to Kalol and thence proceeded to Kadi. On January 5, His Highness left Kadi on a visit to Becharaji. The next morning, His Highness went to see the neighbouring places like Venpur, Adiwada, etc., Chanasma, the head-quarters of the Taluka, was an hour's drive from the camp and His Highness paid a flying visit to this place also. His Highness returned to Becharaji in the noon.

22. On February 4, 1926, His Highness went to Ajanta to see the caves and thence paid a visit to Kavalana, his birth place.

23. On his return, His Highness again started his district tours. This time, the districts of Okha and Amreli were selected. On February 11, 1926, His Highness left Baroda to perform the opening ceremony of the Adatra (now called Okha) port. On his way to Dwarka, His Highness halted at Jamnagar. His Highness reached Dwarka on February 12 at 6-30 P.M. On February 14, 1926, His Highness motored to Adatra to open the new bund. The opening ceremony being over, His Highness returned to Dwarka and left that holy place on the 15th of February 1926. On his way back, His Highness again halted at Jamnagar at the request of His Highness the Maharaja Jamsaheb and stayed there for one day as his guest.

From Jamnagar, His Highness went to Amreli on February 17th. The same afternoon His Highness visited Damnagar and returned to Amreli at night. Next came the turn of Khamba and Dhari. After inspecting the local offices and hearing in person the petitions of his subjects, His Highness returned to Baroda on 20-2-1926.

24. During the above tours, His Highness received Chhabadis and Pausupari from local officers, Municipalities, Mahajans and merchants. In his usual solicitude for the welfare of his subjects, His Highness gave audience, wherever he went, to local Patels, Matadars and others so as to enable them to explain to him freely their needs and complaints.

25. The next fortnight, His Highness passed in visiting Kavalana, Malegaon and Gwalior. At Kavalana, Malegaon & Gwalior. His Highness opened an Agricultural Exhibition. On this occasion His Highness received addresses from several local bodies and public institutions. They contained eulogistic references to His Highness' work in various spheres which had contributed to the improvement of the social, industrial, economical and educational condition of his subjects. His Highness returned to Baroda on March 3, 1926.

26. His Highness the Maharaja Sahib accompanied by Mr. B. V. Desai, Chief Officer, and Dr. Y. V. Modak, Personal Physician, left Sails to Europe.

Baroda on 12th March 1926 for Bombay *en route* to Europe. His Highness and party sailed from Bombay on March 13, 1926 on board the Mail Steamer S.S. Rawalpindi.

27. Her Highness the Maharani Saheb left Baroda for Delhi on the 29th October 1925 and Her Highness' trips. returned to Baroda after three weeks' stay there on the 20th November. Her Highness again left for Delhi in February 1926 and stayed there for about a month returning to the Capital on the 2nd of March. Sometime after His Highness' departure for Europe, Her Highness the Maharani Saheb again left Baroda for Ootacamund on the 28th April, returning to Baroda on 21st August. On her way back from Ootacamund, Her Highness stayed at Bangalore for over a week and at Poona for one month from 19th July to 28th August. On the 18th of August, Her Highness performed the opening ceremony of the Arts Exhibition at Bombay.

Among the important State Guests during the year were the following :—

No.	Name of the Visitor.	Date of arrival.	Residence.
1	His Highness Lt. Col. Sir Prabhu Narayan Singh Bahadur, Maharaja of Benares.	30- 8-25	Nazar Bagh Palace.
2	Her Highness the Maharani Saheb of Dewas (Senior.)	17-12-25	Vishram Bagh.
3	Their Highnesses the Raja Saheb and Rani Saheb of Sawantwadi.	19-12-25	Chiman Bagh.
4	Her Highness the Maharani Saheb of Cooch Behar.	11- 1-26	Lakshmi Vilas Palace.
5	H. E. The Viceroy of India.	21- 1-26	Makarpura Palace.
6	His Highness the Maharaja of Cooch Behar.	22- 1-26	Lakshmi Vilas Palace.
7	His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore.	25- 1-26	Makarpura Palace.

28. The formal courtesies of presentation either of money or of "Poshakhs" and "*Aher Bahuman*"
 Formal courtesies. were extended to the following :—

1. A Poshakh worth Rs. 280 was given to Her Highness the Rani Saheb of Sawantwadi at Poona on the occasion of her visit to Her Highness the Maharani Saheb.
2. A Poshakh worth Rs. 5,000 was sent to Gwalior on the occasion of His Highness' installation ceremony, with Shrimant Sardar Ghorpade.
3. Her Highness the Maharani Saheb of Dewas (Senior) paid a visit to Her Highness the Maharani Saheb. At the time of her return she was given a Poshakh worth Rs. 293.
4. A Poshakh worth Rs. 236 was given to Mrs. Purnia, wife of the late Dewan of Mysore and her daughter on 23-1-26 on the occasion of their visit to Baroda.
5. A deputation from Kashmere which came to invite His Highness the Maharaja Saheb on the occasion of the installation ceremony of His Highness the Maharaja was presented with a Poshakh worth Rs. 770.
6. His Highness the Raja Saheb of Sawantwadi visited Baroda on 25th January 1926. He was presented with a Poshakh worth Rs. 1,575 on this occasion.
7. A Poshakh worth Rs. 5,000 was sent to His Highness the Maharaja Bahadur Shri Harisinhji Bahadur of Jaumu and Kashmere on the occasion of his installation ceremony.
8. A Poshakh worth Rs. 351 was sent to Maharana Bhavansinhji Bahadur of Danta on the occasion of his installation ceremony.
9. His Holiness Shri Shankaracharya of Goverdhan Pith and his party were presented with Poshakh worth Rs. 980 on the occasion of their visit to Baroda.
10. A Poshakh worth Rs. 970 was sent to Maharawal Shri Indrasinhji Pratapsinhji Raja Saheb of Bansda on the occasion of his brother's marriage.

Golden Jubilee Celebrations

29. One of the most important and memorable events during the year under report was the celebration of the Golden Jubilee of His Highness' rule. On the 26th of May 1925, full two quarters of a century,
- Resolution to celebrate the Golden Jubilee of H. H.'s rule.

elapsed since the accession of His Highness. At a public meeting of subjects of the State and His Highness' admirers from distant places held at Baroda on December, 14, 1925 in the spacious hall of the Nyaya Mandir, it was unanimously resolved to commemorate this event by celebrating on a large scale the Golden Jubilee of His Highness' benign rule.

30. The Jubilee celebrations commenced on January 11, 1926 and lasted for four days, the first three days of which were observed as public holidays throughout the Raj. An influential Central Jubilee Committee which was specially formed for the purpose, had drawn out an elaborate programme of festivities for the capital and similar programmes with changes to suit local convenience were followed in all the mofussil towns and villages, in the State.

31. As this was a very unique event in the history of Baroda, it had drawn a number of visitors, -Europeans and Indians- from all parts of India, and the presence of two Indian Princes (His Highness the Sardesai of Savantwadi and the Chief of Jamkhandi) added to the grandeur of the occasion. The whole city was picturesquely decorated with flowers and festoons and presented a very gay and lively appearance.

32. With such preparations and the joy and enthusiasm of the populace thus rising to overflowing, the Golden Jubilee celebrations began on January 11, 1926. Early in the morning prayers were offered to the Almighty wishing His Highness long life and happiness, in places of worship of all creeds and denominations.

33. At 9 a.m., an imposing procession started from the palace. His Highness and the Minister were seated in a gold Ambari, mounted on an elephant. The procession passed through dense crowds of people in gala dress. A beautiful

Shamiana was erected on the Warashya grounds outside the city. In the middle of the Shamiyana a dais was erected on which gold and silver chairs were placed for the accommodation of the members of the Ruling family. Their Highnesses the Maharaja and the Maharani Saheb were seated on a sofa. Around them were grouped Shrimant Maharaja Kumar Dhairyashihao Shrimant Maharaja Kumar Pratapsinh Raje, and H. H. the dowager Maharani Indira Devi of Coochbihar.

34. Nine addresses from various bodies and institutions were presented to His Highness at this Presentation of • Durbar. They were in English, Marathi, Addresses. Gujarati, Urdu and Persian. They referred to the various beneficent activities of His Highness for the promotion of the welfare and happiness of his subjects and laid great stress on the momentous step His Highness had taken in making Primary Education free and compulsory throughout the State. The address which the subjects of the State presented was enclosed in a solid gold casket. A gold frame containing a likeness of His Highness engraved on a silver plate was also presented to His Highness by his loving subjects on this memorable occasion.

35. Moved by the compliments which the addresses contained, His Highness rose to give a His Highness' reply. suitable reply to the several addresses amidst deafening cheers, a summary of which is given in Appendix A. His Highness' speech was punctuated by a salute of 50 guns corresponding to the years of His Highness' reign by the State artillery and the firing of *fue-de-joye* at suitable intervals.

36. Another Durbar was held that day in the L. V. Palace where ten more addresses representing Durbar at L. V. various interests in the State and outside Palace. were presented to His Highness. They contained eulogistic references to the benevolent work of His Highness in various spheres which had contributed to the establishment of progress and prosperity in the State. This

over, His Highness was garlanded by the representatives of the above associations. In reply, His Highness made a short speech (Appendix B.).

37. After His Highness' speech, the Durbar dispersed.
 Children's Gathering. In the evening, a large number of school children gathered on the spacious grounds opposite the L. V. Palace, where sports both of boys and girls were held. His Highness accompanied by Her Highness the Maharam Saheb witnessed the sports. Prizes were then distributed to the successful candidates.

38. At night, the principal thorough fares in the City were illuminated. There were also fire-works on the Sursagar, where thousands of people had gathered to witness them. A long line of Bhajan Mandalis was seen going through the streets chanting their prayers and benedictions.

39. The important function on the second day of the Jubilee Week was the People's Fair in the evening at the Public Park. Several stalls providing various amusements such as Kattak dances, Baluch sword dances, Boy Scout camp fire and Rally, Bhajan Mandalis and Court story telling were opened and attracted great crowds. The State band was in attendance to entertain the visitors. His Highness motored down to the Public Park and strolled round the fair for some time.

40. The third day of the Jubilee Celebrations opened with a full Dress review of the Troops by His Highness on the Parade grounds, early in the morning in the presence of a fairly large gathering. His Highness accompanied by Col. Hesketh, the then Officer Commanding Baroda Army, reviewed the first and second Cavalries and the Light Infantry Regiments. This over, a salute of 21 guns was fired by the State Artillery. This brought the function to a close.

41. In the after-noon the poor of the City were fed with sumptuous food and clothes were distributed to them.
Feeding of the poor.

42. At 9-30 p.m., His Highness gave a Garden Party to the people and the numerous visitors, which brought the day's programme to an end.
Garden Party.

43. Thursday was the last day of the Jubilee Week. The early hours of this morning were devoted to an important function at which His Highness performed the ceremony of laying the foundation of the Kirtee Mandir. His Highness accompanied by Shrimant Maharaja Kumars Dhairyashilrao and Pratapsinhrao was received by the Minister and other State officers. His Highness made an important speech and declared the stone of the Mandir well and truly laid for the establishment of a Chhatri and a Kirtee Mandir to the memory of his ancestors and to the remembrance and the praise of the famous and worthy in the Baroda State.
Kirtee Mandir.

44. His Highness then presented medals to six students of the Baroda College and other institutions in the City for their proficiency in various subjects. His Highness was afterwards garlanded by the Minister and a salute of 21 guns was fired.
Presentation of medals to students.

45. This was the Sankrant day and a Durbar was held in the afternoon at the L. V. Palace when honours were conferred on persons who had rendered meritorious services to the State.
Honours.

46. An extraordinary Gazette was issued on this day by the Minister announcing concessions from His Highness to his subjects. One of the most important concessions announced was the remission of land revenue arrears to the extent of about 3 lakhs of rupees, out of the total outstanding arrears of about 4 lakhs of rupees at the beginning of this year. Another concession which His Highness was pleased to make was in connection with the
Concessions.

Cotton Excise duty. His Highness was graciously pleased to declare its suspension from the 1st December, 1925. In memory of this occasion, His Highness was further pleased to order that telephone facilities should be provided in all principal towns in the State by the Government and that the inmates of the Reformatory except those who were orphans, should be released. Nine life convicts, two youthful convicts and fifteen others sentenced to different periods of imprisonment were also released.

47. Thus terminated the Golden Jubilee Celebrations of His Highness' Rule, the pleasant and delightful memory of which will be cherished for long by the present and future generations.

Visit of His Excellency the Viceroy.

48. Another important event of the year was the visit paid by His Excellency the Earl of Reading, P.C., G.C.B., G.M.S.I., G.M.I.E., G.C.V.O., Viceroy and Governor-General of India, and Her Excellency Lady Reading, to His Highness the Maharaja at his capital. As on the previous occasions of the Viceregal visits, the Makarpura Palace was placed at the disposal of Their Excellencies during their stay at Baroda which extended for three days viz: the 21st to 23rd January 1926. Mr. K. N. Panimanglore was appointed as Special Duty Officer to look after the comforts of the Viceregal party during the period of their stay in Baroda.

49. At 2 P.M. on the 21st January, Sir Manubhai N. Mehta, Kt., C.S.I. and the *1st Assistant to the Resident started from the Baroda Railway Station by a Special train for the Champaner Road Station to meet His

Deputation to meet His Excellency on the border of the State.

* Note: As the Resident Mr. E.H. Kealy was ill, the First Assistant Resident, Major H. M. Wightwick, was deputed to perform the Resident's duties during the Viceregal visit. Rao Saheb D. K. Apte, Indian Assistant, therefore, represented the First Assistant Resident in the deputation which met His Excellency the Viceroy at Champaner, while Lt. Col. Egerton, the Officer Commanding at Baroda, represented the First Assistant Resident at the Viceregal reception on the Station platform.

Excellency on the border of the Baroda territory. The deputation met His Excellency at the above station and accompanied him to Baroda in the Viceregal Special train.

50. The Viceregal Special train arrived at Baroda at 4 P.M.

Arrival of Their Excellencies at Baroda.

Their Excellencies were accompanied by Miss Charnaud, Sister Meikle and the Hon'ble Mr. (now Sir) J. P. Thompson, C.S.I., I.C.S., Political Secretary, Sir Geoffrey de Montmorency, K.C.V.O., C.I.E., C.B.E., I.C.S., Private Secretary, Colonel R. B. Worgan, C.S.I., C.V.O., D.S.O., Military Secretary, Lt. Col. J. Norman Walker, I.M.S., Surgeon, Captain J. D. Gage Brown, A.D.C., Captain T. M. Lunham, A.D.C., Captain A. G. L. Maclean, A.D.C., and others.

51. On alighting from his saloon, His Excellency was

Reception at the Railway Station.

received by His Highness the Maharaja and a Royal Salute of 31 guns was fired by the State Artillery and the British and Baroda Guards of Honour presented Arms. Immediately after His Excellency, Her Excellency Lady Reading alighted from the Saloon and was received by His Highness.

52. His Highness then introduced His Highness the Sar

Introductions at the Station.

Desai Saheb of Sawantwadi (who had come to Baroda on the occasion of the Viceregal visit), Shrimant Maharaj Kumars Dhairyashil Rao and Pratapsinh Raje to Their Excellencies. Subsequently, the Resident introduced the British Military Officers and his own staff to His Excellency. After this, the Resident introduced to His Excellency, the Minister and the Nobles and high officials of the State present at the Station. All the British and State Officials mentioned above were presented to Her Excellency by the First Assistant to the Resident.

53. His Excellency then inspected the British and Baroda

Inspection of Guards of Honour and departure from the Station.

Guards of Honour. The Inspection having been over, His Excellency, His Highness, Her Excellency the Countess of Reading and the members of the

Viceregal party and the State Officers, who were to take part in the procession, proceeded to the Station Porch in order to take their departure.

54. His Excellency and the party then left for the Carriage Procession. Makarpura Palace. They proceeded up to the Vishram Bag level crossing in carriages in the following order :—

Two squadrons of the State Cavalry led by two State Mounted Police Officers riding 30 yards ahead of the escort.

1st CARRIAGE.

(drawn by six horses).

His Excellency the Viceroy.
His Highness the Maharaja Sahib.
The Resident at Baroda.
The Military Secretary to the Viceroy.

2nd CARRIAGE.

Her Excellency Lady Reading.
The Political Secretary to the Government of India.
The Surgeon to the Viceroy.
A D.C. to His Excellency.
One Squadron of the State Cavalry.

3rd CARRIAGE.

Shrimant Maharaj-Kumar Dhairyaashilrao.
Private Secretary to the Viceroy.
A.D.C. to His Excellency.
A.D.C. to His Excellency.

4th CARRIAGE.

Shrimant Maharaj-Kumar Pratap Sinh Raje.
The Minister, Baroda State.
A.D.C. to His Highness.

5th CARRIAGE.

Secretary to His Highness.

Khangī Karbhari.

Two A.D.C.s to His Highness.

One Squadron of the State Cavalry.

The State Guards.

The Resident's escort.

The Minister's escort.

55. From Vishram Bag Motor cars were used for the Motor Procession. • rest of the journey. The order of cars and seats in them was as under :—

1st CAR.

His Excellency the Viceroy.

His Highness the Maharaja.

The Military Secretary to the Viceroy.

2nd CAR.

Her Excellency Lady Reading.

The Political Secretary to the Government of India.

One A.D.C. to His Excellency.

3rd CAR.

The Resident at Baroda.

Shrimant Maharaj-Kumar Dhairyashilrao.

One A.D.C. to His Excellency.

4th CAR.

The Private Secretary to the Viceroy.

Shrimant Maharaj-Kumar Pratap Sinh Raje.

One A.D.C. to His Excellency.

5th CAR.

The Minister, Baroda State.

The Surgeon to His Excellency.

A.D.C. to His Highness.

6th CAR.

The Secretary to His Highness.

Khangī Karbhari.

Two A.D.C.s to His Highness.

56. The escort was dispensed with at the Vishram Bag Railway Crossing. As the Viceregal Procession passed, the troops lining the road presented Arms, and the Police stood to attention. When His Excellency reached the Makarpura Palace, a Royal Salute of 31 guns was fired by the State Artillery, and the Guard of Honour of British Infantry presented Arms.

57. On alighting from his car, His Excellency accompanied by His Highness and the Resident inspected the Guard of Honour of British Infantry. His Highness then took His Excellency into the Palace in the drawing room, and after a few minute's conversation with him and after taking tea with Their Excellencies in that room, took leave and returned to the Laxmi Vilas Palace.

58. At His Highness' departure, the Guard of Honour of British Infantry presented Arms to His Highness.

His Highness' departure.

59. At 6 P.M. on the same day, four of the principal Officers of the State called at the Viceregal Residence to inquire after His Excellency's health. They were received by the Political Secretary and the Military Secretary. At parting, flowers and Pan Supari were given to them by the Political Secretary. The ceremonies on the occasion of their arrival were repeated at their departure.

60. At 8-30 A.M. the next day, His Excellency paid a visit to the Zaverkhana and viewed the State jewellery and the gold and silver guns and the Ambari and the Gold and Silver Carriages.

Visit to Zaverkhana.

61. At 11 A.M., His Highness the Maharaja accompanied by the Resident, Maharaj-Kumars Dhairyashil Rao and Pratap Sinh Rao, the Minister and the leading Nobles and High Officials of the State paid a formal visit to His Excellency the Viceroy at the Makarpura Palace. On this occasion, the following programme was observed.—

“At 11-0 A.M. on Friday, the 22nd January 1926, His Excellency the Viceroy will receive a visit from His Highness the Gaekwar of Baroda, at the Makarpura Palace.

The Officer Commanding at Baroda, with his staff, will be present.

A deputation, consisting of the Military Secretary to the Viceroy, the Under Secretary in the Foreign and Political Department and an Aide-de-Camp will start from the viceregal residence at 10-30 A.M., for the purpose of escorting His Highness from his Palace (Laxmi Vilas).

His Highness will be accompanied by the Resident at Baroda and by the Minister and the principal Nobles and Officials of the State, the entire retinue not exceeding 12 in number.

On alighting from his motor car, His Highness will be met by an Aide-de-Camp to the Viceroy, who, with the deputation, will lead him up the steps. The Political Secretary will receive His Highness at the top of the steps and conduct him to the reception room.

The Viceroy will receive His Highness within the reception room at a distance of one pace from the threshold, and will conduct him to a seat at his right hand.

On the right of the Gaekwar will sit the Resident, and beyond him, the Minister and His Highness' Nobles and Officials according to their rank.

On the left of the Viceroy will sit the Political Secretary, the Private and Military Secretaries to the Viceroy, the Officer Commanding at Baroda, the Under Secretary, His Excellency's personal staff, the Resident's staff, and the Military staff.

After a short conversation, the Minister and the Nobles and Officials accompanying His Highness will be introduced to the Viceroy by the Resident, and will offer *Nazars* of five gold *mohars* each, which will be touched and remitted.

At the close of the interview, *itr* and *pan* will be given by the Viceroy to the Gackwar; by the Political Secretary to His Highness' Minister and the three principal members of His Highness' suite; and by the Under Secretary to the others.

The ceremonies at the Gackwar's departure will be the same as those observed at His Highness' arrival.

During the interview a band will play outside the Viceregal residence.

A Guard-of-Honour of British Infantry will be drawn up in front of the Viceregal residence, and will salute His Highness on arrival and departure.

The short length of the road from the lodge gates of the Palace grounds to the Palace itself will be lined by the 1-8th Punjab Regiment.

A salute of 21 guns will be fired by His Highness' Artillery on the arrival and departure of the Gackwar.

The deputation will accompany His Highness to his residence.

Full Dress uniform (White) will be worn by Civil Officers, and Review Order (Khakhi) by Military Officers. Gentlemen not entitled to wear uniform will wear " Morning Dress ".

62. At this Durbar, the Maharaj Kumars were seated next on the right of the Resident. They were introduced to His Excellency by His Highness, when they rose and bowed to His Excellency from near their chairs. They were garlanded by His Excellency the Viceroy who also gave them *attar* and *pan* himself. No *nazar* was presented by them to His Excellency.

63. At the Durbar, His Excellency and His Highness the Maharaja sat on a Silver Sofa.

64. At 12-15 P.M. on the same day, His Excellency returned the visit of His Highness at the Laxmi Vilas Palace. The Durbar was held in the grand Durbar Hall of the Palace where a Silver Sofa was placed on a dais for His Excellency and His Highness. The programme followed on the occasion was as under :—

" At 12-15 P.M. on Friday, the 22nd January 1926, His Excellency the Viceroy and the Governor General will return the visit of His Highness the Gaekwar of Baroda.

The Officer Commanding at Baroda, with his staff, will be present.

A deputation, consisting of the four principal officers of the Baroda State, will wait on the Viceroy at the Makarpura Palace, at 11-55 A.M. precisely, to conduct His Excellency to the Gaekwar's Palace (Laxmi Vilas).

His Excellency the Viceroy will leave his residence at 12-5 P.M., under a Royal Salute of 31 guns, fired by His Highness the Gaekwar's Artillery, and will be attended by the Political Secretary, the Private and Military Secretaries to the Viceroy, the Under Secretary in the Foreign and Political Department, and His Excellency's personal staff.

The Gaekwar, accompanied by the Resident, will receive the Viceroy as His Excellency alights from his motor car at His Highness' Palace, and will conduct him to the Reception Room and to a seat at his right hand.

On the right of the Viceroy will sit the Political Secretary, the Private and the Military Secretaries to the Viceroy, the Officer Commanding at Baroda, the Under Secretary, His Excellency's personal staff, the Resident's staff, and the Military staff.

On the left of the Gaekwar will sit the Resident, and beyond him, the Minister and such of His Highness' Nobles and officials as are entitled to a seat in Durbar, according to their rank.

After a short conversation, the Minister, and those of the Gaekwar's Nobles and Officials who are entitled to the honour, will be presented to the Viceroy by the Resident, and will offer *nazars* of five gold *mohors* each, which will be touched and remitted.

At the close of the interview, *itr* and *pan* will be presented by the Gaekwar to the Viceroy, to the Resident, and to the Political Secretary; His Highness' Minister will present *itr* and *pan* to the other British officers present.

The ceremonies which attended the Viceroy's arrival will be repeated at His Excellency's departure.

The Gaekwar's Troops will line the approach to His Highness' Palace, and will salute as His Excellency passes. A Guard of Honour of His Highness' Troops will be drawn up at the Palace and will salute His Excellency on his arrival and departure.

A Royal Salute of 31 guns will be fired by His Highness' Artillery on the arrival and departure of His Excellency.

The deputation will accompany His Excellency to his residence.

Full Dress uniform (White) will be worn by Civil Officers and Review Order (Khaki) by Military Officers. Gentlemen not entitled to wear uniform will wear " Morning Dress. "

65. Shrimant Maharaj Kumars Dhairyashil Rao and Pratapsinh Raje were present at this Durbar also. They sat next to the Resident to the left below the Dais. His Highness introduced them to His Excellency when they rose and bowed to His Excellency from near their chairs. No *nazar* was presented by them.

66. At 4 P.M., Their Excellencies the Viceroy and Lady Reading took tea with their Highnesses the Maharaja and Maharani at the Laxmivilas Palace.

67. From the Palace, Their Excellencies accompanied by His Highness the Maharaja went to the Arena Sports. the Arena to witness the sports held there in their honour. After seeing the performances for an hour and a half, Their Excellencies left for the Makarpura Palace.

68. At 8-30 P.M. the same evening, a State Banquet was held in honour of the illustrious guests in the Durbar Hall of the Laxmi Vilas Palace to which the members of His Excellency's party, the European ladies and gentlemen of the Station and the leading Indian ladies and gentlemen of the Capital were invited. The road from the Laxmi Vilas Palace Gate to the Lehipura Gate was lined on both sides by State Troops. The principal buildings along the route and the grounds of the Laxmi Vilas Palace were tastefully illuminated. The Banquet Hall itself was most effectively illuminated and specially decorated for the occasion.

69. During the Banquet the State Band and a Concert of Indian Musicians played alternately.

70. After dessert, His Highness the Maharaja Saheb proposed the health of His Majesty the King Emperor in the following words:—

“YOUR EXCELLENCIES, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I rise to propose the health of the King Emperor. It is not necessary to commend this toast to your acceptance nor to indicate the diverse ways in which the English Ruling Family has endeared itself to the affections of the Indian people. The life and conduct of His Majesty the King Emperor, constitute the greatest assets of which the Empire is possessed.

For my own part, I recall with gratitude the personal friendship with which His Majesty has honoured me—it will always remain a cherished memory.

Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen—

THE KING EMPEROR."

71. Afterwards, His Highness proposed the health of the
 Toast of Their
 Excellencies. guests of the evening, the text of which
 is given in Appendix C.

72. His Excellency in reply spoke at some length. The
 His Excellency's
 reply. text of the reply is given in Appendix D.

73. After thanking His Excellency again, His Highness
 Fire Works. conducted Their Excellencies, accom-
 panied by the Viceregal Staff and by the
 Resident and other guests, to the Western Terrace of the
 Laxmi Vilas Palace to witness a display of fire-works let off
 from the ground to the West of the Sunk-gardens.

74. At 8-30 in the morning of the 23rd January 1926,
 Cheeta Hunt. His Highness the Maharaja took His
 Excellency the Viceroy to Sunderpura
 where a Cheeta Hunt had been arranged for his entertainment.

75. At 12-15, a Children's Gathering was held at the
 Children's Gathering. Nyaya Mandir to entertain Their
 Excellencies the Viceroy and Lady
 Reading.

76. At 4-30 in the evening, His Excellency performed
 Foundation Stone
 Ceremony. the ceremony of laying the Foundation
 Stone of the Science Institute Building
 near the Baroda College.

77. After the above ceremony was over, His Excellency
 Garden Party. and His Highness proceeded in a motor
 car to the Moti Bag grounds to take
 part in the Garden Party which had been arranged in honour
 of the distinguished guests. They were joined there by Her
 Excellency Lady Reading and Her Highness the Maharani
 Saheb.

78. At 3-80 P.M., Their Excellencies and a few select ladies and gentlemen dined at the Laxmi Vilas Palace with Their Highnesses the Maharaja and Maharani.

79. After dinner, Their Excellencies motored to the Baroda Railway Station whence they left for Delhi by a Special Train. His Excellency's departure was private. His Highness the Maharaja was present at the Railway Station to see Their Excellencies off. A Royal salute of 31 guns was fired in the morning of Monday the 25th January to announce His Excellency's departure.

D. Relations with the British Government.

80. The relations of His Highness' Government with the British Government and the neighbouring and other Indian States were conducted by the Minister through the Huzur Political Office, and continued to be cordial and satisfactory as usual.

81. The British Postal authorities continued to receive the requisite facilities to enable them to provide additional Post Offices and letter-boxes in different parts of the State. The total number of Post Offices and letter-boxes at the close of the official year was 1,058 (274 plus 784) as against 1,050 (268 plus 782) at the end of the previous year.

82. Arrangements relating to the mutual extradition of criminals from and to British India and the Indian States as also those relating to co-operation in Police matters with them continued to work satisfactorily as hitherto.

83. At the instance of the Government of India, His Highness' Government took up the question of introducing local legislation on the lines of the Cotton Ginning and Pressing Factories Act, 1925, and also agreed to adopt the system devised for the allotment of Press marks in Indian States.

84. At the instance of the Government of India, the Resident requested His Highness' Government to let him know for the information of the Indian Taxation Inquiry Committee whether death duties were levied by them. The Resident also inquired, for a similar purpose, if any tax was levied by His Highness' Government on tobacco including that grown in the State. In reply, the Resident was informed that His Highness' Government did not levy any special tax on tobacco over and above the land assessment and that they did not levy any death duties in the State.

Information required by the Indian Taxation Inquiry Committee.

85. At the instance of the Lady Chelmsford All-India League for Maternity and Child-Welfare, the Government of India inquired whether His Highness' Government had taken up the work of medical inspection of school children. of school-children and requested that they might be furnished with a general outline of the scheme of inspection and also asked for information on certain of the points in connection therewith. The required information was supplied to the Resident for communication to the Government of India.

Information asked for by the Government of India about the medical inspection of school children.

86. The Government of India having invited His Highness' Government to nominate their representatives to attend the Conference of Registrars of Co-operative Societies held at Bombay in January 1926, His Highness' Government had agreed to depute Mr. Sevaklal D. Parikh, B.A., Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Baroda State, and Mr. Becharbhai Ranchhodbhai Patel, a non-official gentleman, interested in the Co-operative movement for the purpose. Mr. Becharbhai could not, however, attend the Conference owing to indifferent health.

Conference of Registrars of Co-operative Societies held at Bombay.

87. The Government of India having invited His Highness' Government to depute their Director of Agriculture as also the Director of Commerce to attend the

Meeting of the Board of Agriculture.

meeting of the Board of Agriculture held at Pusa in December 1925, Mr. C. V. Sane, B.Ag., B.Sc. (Kans), M.Sc. (Wiscon), Director of Agriculture, Baroda State, and Dr. S. M. Pagar, B.A., A.M. Ph. D. (Columbia), were deputed to attend the meeting in question.

88. The Government of India having invited His Highness' Government to send a representative to serve as a co-opted member at the meeting of the Indian Historical Records Commission held at Lahore on the 23rd November 1925, Mr. J. M. Mehta, B.A. (Oxon), Professor of History and Economics at the Baroda College, was deputed for the purpose.

89. The Government of India having requested His Highness' Government to furnish replies to the questionnaire prepared by the Indian Sandhurst Committee appointed with the object of obtaining information as to the best means of attracting suitably qualified Indians to adopt a military career, His Highness' Government expressed their views in the matter and also deputed General N. G. Shinde, General Officer Commanding the Baroda Army, to give oral evidence before the said Committee.

90. At the request of the Government of India, His Highness' Government agreed to issue their forecast of the out-turn of the castor seed crop not later than 10th February and furnish copy thereof to the Director General, Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, Calcutta, so as to enable him to include the Baroda returns in the All-India Memorandum dealing with the area and out-turn of the castor seed crop.

91. The Sub-Post Master at Kathor requested for a Police escort being furnished for guarding certain cash which the Postal Inspector, Broach, had brought there with him. As, however, there was no arrangement

Publication of an All-India Memorandum dealing with the area and out-turn of the castor seed crop.

Police escorts required for safeguarding the cash of the Postal Department.

His Highness' Government had accepted any obligation to furnish escorts in such cases, the Resident was requested to inform the Post Master General, Bombay to direct the Postal staff not to make such requisitions in future and to inform him that if owing to the existence of special circumstances escorts were needed in particular cases, they would be arranged for on payment of the necessary charges by the Postal Department in accordance with the State rules. The Post Master General, Bombay, thereupon directed the staff concerned not to requisition Police escorts from His Highness' Government in future.

92. At the request of the Director General of Observatories, Indian Meteorological Department, His Highness' Government agreed to furnish the Director of Agriculture, Bombay Presidency, with monthly rain-fall returns from certain centres in the State selected by him for incorporation in the monthly rain-fall returns of the Bombay Presidency and undertook to maintain them in accordance with the directions printed in the rain-fall organization circular issued by the Director General. The Director of Agriculture, Baroda State, was recognised as the controlling officer for the rain-fall returns of the Baroda State.

93. At the instance of the Government of India, His Highness' Government agreed to supply to the Secretary, Indian Central Cotton Committee, monthly statistics relating to cotton consumed in mills in the Baroda State.

94. Under sub-para (8) of para 5 of clause IV of the Bombay Baroda Boundary Convention, cases of disagreement between the delegates of Bombay and Baroda Governments are required to be referred to the superior officers under the two Governments for coming to an agreement, but there was no clear understanding as to who should be

considered to be the superior officers of the delegates. The Settlement Commissioner and Director of Land Records, Bombay Presidency, therefore, raised this point in the Gatal Vithoj boundary case and requested for a definite ruling on it being obtained from both the Governments concerned. It was, thereupon, decided that the Settlement Commissioner and Director of Land Records should be recognized as the Superior Officer of the British Delegates and the Sar Suba of the Baroda State as the Superior Officer of the Baroda Delegate for the purpose of sub-para (8) of paragraph 5 of clause IV of the Convention. •

95. The State Conservator of Forests reported that the width of the line of fire traces on the borders of the Baroda and Rajpipla forests fixed in 1915 viz, 100 feet, did not serve the intended purpose as the high winds blowing from Rajpipla and Sagbara forests constantly exposed the Vajpur and Nanchal forests to risk from conflagration almost throughout the year. It was, therefore, suggested that the width of the line of fire-traces should be fixed at 200 feet instead of 100 feet on this boundary. The Rajpipla authorities, however, agreed to increase it to 150 feet only.

Issue of licenses to tap trees situated on the land within the limits of the B. B. & C. I. Rly. sovereignty over which has been retroceded to His Highness' Government.

96. The Commissioner of Excise, Bombay, objected to the issue of licenses by His Highness' Government to tap trees situated within the limit of the B. B. & C. I. Railway near the village of Tavdi in the Navsari District adjoining the Surat District. His Highness' Government, however, pointed out that the provisions of the Bombay Act I of 1862 and III of 1918 were no longer applicable to the land in question as the sovereignty over the same was retroceded to His Highness' Government, and that they were, therefore, the proper authorities to issue licenses for the purpose.

97. Owing to the severe scarcity of fodder and forage in the Jodhpur State, the Jodhpur Durbar requested for sanction to the introduction of concession rates on consignments of fodder from certain stations on the B. B. & C. I. Railway (Broad Gauge), and inquired of His Highness' Government whether they had any objection to fodder being exported from such of the stations as were situated in Baroda territory. His Highness' Government replied that they had no objection to fodder being exported to Jodhpur from the stations in question.

98. The Wazir of the Palanpur State proposed that the Wantas of Palanpur situated in Baroda territory should be entered in the name of the Palanpur State instead of in that of the Ruler of the State so as to avoid the trouble about mutation of names. His Highness' Government, however, did not accede to the proposal of the Wazir as it was against the rules and practice obtaining in this behalf in the State.

99. The Jambusar Municipal authorities claimed from the State Railway Department the payment of House Tax on the Railway Buildings situated in the Jambusar Road Station Yard. On His Highness' Government representing that the claim in question was untenable, the Government of Bombay replied that under section 135 of the Indian Railways Act, 1890, no tax could be levied from a railway administration in aid of the funds of any local authority, unless the Governor General in Council had by notification in the Official Gazette declared the railway administration to be liable to pay the tax, and that they had not till then received the application of the Jambusar Municipality for the publication of a notification under the said section and that the claim of His Highness' Government that they should be exempted from the payment of the House Tax would be duly considered by them if any application was received from the Jambusar Municipality in the matter.

100. A reciprocal arrangement has been arrived at with the Government of Bombay regarding the adoption of a form for use in the case of accused persons arrested in British territory by the British Police either on suspicion or on the strength of a written communication from the Baroda Police and vice versa.

101. At the request of His Highness' Government, the Government of India were pleased to sanction a further supply, on payment, from the Allahabad Arsenal, of 200 single loading '303' bore rifles for the use of the State Police.

102. On a motion from His Highness' Government, the Government of India were pleased to exempt them from any payment towards the cost of the police posted on the Okhamandal Railway.

103. At the request of His Highness' Government, the Marine Department of the Government of India carried out a Survey of the Velan Harbour situated in the Kodinar Taluka of the Amreli District.

104. All correspondence between His Highness' Government and the B. B. & C. I. Railway in respect of the branch lines belonging to His Highness' Government and worked by the B. B. & C. I. Railway used to be carried on through the Residency. In order to facilitate disposal of work, it was arranged during the year under report that all communications on subjects other than

- (1) matters in which the Government of India (Railway Board) had an interest or control,
- (2) Capital and Revenue Expenditure on the Baroda State Railways,

- (3) Proposals for new alignments, and
- (4) Questions involving principles or policy.

should be dealt with direct by Manager and Engineer-in-Chief, G. B. S. Railways, on the one hand and the Agent or the General Traffic Manager, or the Chief Auditor, B. B. & C. I. Railway, on the other.

105. On a motion from His Highness' Government, the countersignature of Political Officers on certificates of attendance at factories produced by candidates from the Indian States for the Mechanical Engineers' Examination held under the Boiler Inspection Act was dispensed with.
- Countersignature of Political Officers on certificates of attendance in factories issued to candidates appearing at Mechanical Engineer's examination.

106. 43 applications from Baroda subjects for passports for travel in foreign countries were received and attended to during the year under report. Of these, 28 were from Bārōda, 1 from Kadi, 9 from Naosari and 5 from Amreli. The flow of emigrants from Baroda, Kadi and Amreli Districts was mainly to Europe and East Africa, whereas that from the Naosari District was towards South Africa. A majority of the emigrants viz., 75 p.c were Hindus.
- Passports for foreign travels.

107. The existing arrangement for issuing passports to the inhabitants of Okhamandal on the strength of declarations made by them before the Commissioner of Okhamandal was further continued as a temporary measure with the proviso that this procedure would be discontinued, should it at any time be found unsatisfactory.
- Issue of passports to the inhabitants of Okhamandal.

108. The Resident having requested that students passing the 3rd Standard from the Government Vernacular Boys' School, Baroda Camp, where English is taught upto that standard might be admitted into the Baroda High School, instructions were issued to the Head Master, Baroda High School, to admit such students in his school, if accommodation was available.
- Admission of students from the Government Vernacular Boys' School, Baroda Camp, into the Baroda High School.

109. In May 1920, the Government of India were pleased to agree to the rendition of the control over Waghers and over the Okha Battalion, to His Highness' Government and the British control over them was accordingly withdrawn, subject to certain conditions. Some of these conditions ceased to be operative with the lapse of a period of five years from the said date and some became liable to be reconsidered in the light of the experience gained during the period. On the Government of India having, therefore, been addressed on the subject, the conditions falling under the first category were eliminated, but as regards those of the second category, they preferred to postpone their removal till they had had further experience of the working of the administration of Okhamandal under the revised arrangements.

110. The Government of Bombay having proposed that preliminary inquiries about the character and antecedents of residents of British territory applying to His Highness' Government for licenses enabling them to drive motor cars (which licenses are respected in British territories also) should be made of the British District Magistrates concerned, before the requisite licenses are issued to them, His Highness' Government accepted the proposal on terms of reciprocity. The Government of Bombay agreed that their officers should not issue such licenses to Baroda subjects without a reference to His Highness' Government.

111. At the request of His Highness' Government, the Railway Board agreed to grant to the Baroda Scouts the same concessions as were allowed to other Scout organisations in India.

112. It was brought to notice that evilly disposed persons were in the habit of putting " Jhansa Chithis " within Railway limits between Mehsana and Viramgam and causing damage to the Railway by cutting wires,

Rendition of the control over Waghers and Okhamandal to His Highness' Government.

Reciprocal arrangement about the issue of licenses for driving motor vehicles.

Railway concessions for the Baroda Boys Scouts.

Putting of " Jhansa Chithis " in Railway limits.

interfering with signals, lamps, the permanent way, etc., not with the intention of causing damage to the Railway, but with the object of attracting attention of the authorities to the "Jhansa Chithi", left at the scene of the occurrence. To put a stop to this mal-practice which would cause serious damage to life or property by accidents over the Railway lines, the Government of Bombay proposed to issue a Notification intimating that such conduct amounted to a very serious offence under the Railway Act and that the perpetrator was liable to transportation for life and suggested to His Highness' Government to take similar action in respect of the Kadi District. His Highness' Government thereupon issued a similar Notification in the matter.

113. There is a causeway between Charakala and Garghad on the Baroda Navanagar

The causeway between Charkala and Garghad on the Baroda Navanagar frontier.

frontier constructed in about St. year 1951-52 by the Baroda and Navanagar States jointly each State having defrayed the cost of the portion within its limits.

The Navanagar authorities subsequently constructed four slopes on the said causeway with the result that water from the north of the road found its way to the south thereof and exposed the land on the Baroda side to the risk of damage. Moreover, they proposed to widen the slopes, which step would have endangered the safety of the embankments of the Okhamandal Railway. The Navanagar authorities having, therefore, been addressed in the matter, they agreed to keep the causeway on their side in a state of decent repair with due regard to the volume of traffic passing over it, and also gave up their intention of widening the slopes to 30 feet.

114. The Customs authorities at Bombay collected duty in Bombay Harbour on the machinery

Refund of customs duty collected at Bombay on consignments of machinery transhipped direct from the Docks to Dwarka.

ordered out by the Dwarka Cement Company. Limited, for their works at Dwarka, though the consignments were not to be cleared from the Docks but were to be transhipped direct from the Docks to Dwarka without breaking bulk. The Government

of Bombay were requested to exempt the said machinery from Customs duty as the same was not to be imported into British India but was to be taken to Dwarka, where it would have been subjected to duty at rates not lower than the British rates according to the arrangement of 1865. The Government of Bombay, however, refused to accede to the request of His Highness' Government on the ground that Dwarka and other ports in Baroda territory were treated as subordinate ports in the Bombay Presidency for the purposes of the Sea Customs Act and not as Foreign Ports. His Highness' Government thereupon represented that Dwarka had all along enjoyed the privileges of a British Indian Port and that free transhipment of goods destined for it from Bombay had been permissible under the arrangement subsisting between the two Governments and requested the Government of Bombay to pay to His Highness' Government such amount as might have been levied on account of Customs duty on the said machinery at Bombay. A sum of Rs. 1,61,210-11-0 was thereupon refunded to His Highness' Government on account of the customs duty paid at Bombay in 1920 by the Dwarka Cement Company on the consignments of machinery in question.

115. His Highness' Government received with profound
 Sad demise of Her Majesty Queen Empress Alexandra, the Queen-mother.
 grief the extremely sad intelligence about the demise of Her Majesty Queen Empress Alexandra, the Queen-mother, on the evening of the 20th November 1925 through the Bombay papers on Sunday the 22nd Idem. Orders were thereupon immediately issued to observe Monday the 23rd Idem, as a day of mourning. Accordingly all Offices and State Institutions in the city of Baroda were closed as a mark of respect to the memory of Her Late Majesty and the flag on the Mandvi was lowered half-mast on that day. A big Indian dinner which His Highness the Maharaja was giving to all his Durbaries on Sunday the 22nd was also cancelled on receipt of the mournful news. All the shops in the city of Baroda were closed on Monday the 23rd. A cablegram was despatched conveying sincere and respectful condolences from His

Highness the Maharaja Saheb to His Majesty the King-Emperor on his very sad bereavement, to which a reply was received from His Majesty offering sincere thanks to His Highness for his words of sympathy in his sad bereavement. Forty minute guns corresponding to half the age of Her Majesty were fired by the State Battery at 12 noon on Friday the 27th which was the day fixed for the Memorial service at Westminster Abbey and at all Churches throughout India. On this day also, the flag on the Mandvi was hoisted half-mast and was kept in that position till midday of the following Saturday when the actual funeral took place.

116. The acknowledgments of His Highness' Government are due to :—

Thanks.

(a) the Government of India for their kindly giving facilities to two clerks of the State Accounts Department to receive training in the work of detection of counterfeit coins and forged currency notes and to acquire thorough knowledge regarding genuine coins and currency notes.

(b) the Government of Bombay for their kindly giving facilities to

(1) Mr. V. R. Talvalkar, L.C.E., A.R.I.B.A. (London), the State Chief Engineer and Dr. S. M. Pagar, B.A., A.M., Ph.D. (Columbia), Director of Commerce and Industries, Baroda, to see the arrangements for storing printed forms and stationery at the Government Press at Yerawada ;

(2) Messrs. Darasha F. Dalal, B.A. and Labhshankar G. Trivedi, B.A., of the State Revenue Department at Bombay and Surat to study the principles and method of income tax assessment followed by the Government of Bombay ;

(3) Mr. V. M. Limaye to study at Poona the methods of office routine followed by the Police Officers in the Bombay Presidency ;

- (c) the Government of Bombay for permitting Mr. William C. Dooris, Executive Engineer in charge of Boring Works, Bombay Presidency, to pay occasional visits to the Kadi Division for the purpose of inspecting boring works in progress there; and advising His Highness' Government in regard to them; and
- (d) The Director General, Indian Medical Service, Simla, for his kindly affording facilities to Mr. A. B. Mehta, a Sub--Assistant Surgeon at the State General Hospital, Baroda, to receive training in the working of the X' Ray Department at the X'Ray Institute at Dehra Dun.

117. The undermentioned important Political cases were dealt with during the year :—

Important Political
cases dealt with.

- (1) The proposed construction by the B. B. & C. I. Railway of solid cement concrete piers around the existing piles of the bridge in the Ambika river near the village of Bhatha.
- (2) Question of the exemption of His Highness' Government from the payment of maintenance charges on account of the Police posted on the Khijadia Dhari Railway.
- (3) Construction of a through road from Bombay to Ahmedabad.
- (4) Proposed construction of the Vasad Katana Railway and the question of the revision of the basis for calculating the minimum gross income to be guaranteed for the Anand Petlad Tarapur line which would be affected by the proposed line.
- (5) Extension of the Billimora Kala Amba Railway from Jheria to Waghai.
- (6) Proposed Railway extension from Chhota Udepur to Kukshi,

- (7) Railways in Southern Kathiawad.
- (8) Procedure to be followed by the British officer in making searches in British India for Mudamal at the quest of the Baroda Police.
- (9) Maintenance of a horse by the Pol Pagedar.
- (10) Reorganisation of the State Troops.
- (11) Ownerless property in Chandod.
- (12) Levy of Pilgrim Tax in Chandod by the Rana of Mandwa on pilgrims passing through the town on their way to Karnali in Baroda territory.
- (13) Radio Broad Casting in British India and its application to Indian States.
- (14) Levy of pilgrim tax by the Navanagar State from passengers on the Jamnagar Dwarka Railway.
- (15) The claim of Mir Sarfaraz Alikhan Valade Zulfikar Alikhan to invoke the interference of the British Government in regard to the orders passed by the Baroda Government regarding the village of Valan.
- (16) Levy of the State Income Tax from persons employed on Railways on which jurisdiction has been ceded to the British Government residing in Baroda limits.
- (17) Procedure for the recovery of the State Income Tax from the Railway employees working on the Metre Gauge Railway lines in the Kadi Division.
- (18) Revision of the arrangement for the levy of the Baroda City Municipal Terminal Tax at Baroda and Vishwamitri Railway Stations on the commodities imported into the Baroda Cantonment.
- (19) Repairs to the Shrine of Somnath Mahadev at Prabhas Pattan.
- (20) Arrangement for powers of Attorney executed before a Magistrate, etc., of the Baroda State being accepted as valid in the Courts of British India and vice versa,

- (21) Levy of a ferry tax at Varwada in the Tilakwada Mahal on a boat plying between Jior (Rajpipla) and Varwada (Baroda).
- (22) Supply of Charas to Indian States.
- (23) Certificates issued by the State officials to the owners of vessels at the ports of Billimora and Naosari.
- (24) Reciprocal arrangement for the extradition of fugitive offenders to and from States under the Central India Agency.
- (25) Ownership of the Malharrao Ghat and the Dharmashala situated thereon in Chandod.
- (26) Request to hand over to His Highness' Government certain portion of road land lying between Vejalpur and Naosari Station.
- (27) Question of the verification of Baroda Palanpur frontier.
- (28) Export of salt from Okhamandal.
- (29) Proposal of His Highness' Government to acquire the plot containing the British Customs House at Navsari.
- (30) Claims of the Raolji of Mansa to certain land in Baroda territory.
- (31) Forfeiture of guaranteed Cash Haks remaining undrawn for 12 years.

E. Administration of Okhamandal,

118 The post of Commissioner, Okhamandal, and Commandant, Okha Battalion, was held
Personnel. by Mr. Nana Saheb Sidhram Shinde, Bar-at-law, throughout the year and the office of the Adjutant, Okha Battalion and Police Naib Suba was held by Captain L. H. Acquino upto 30-9-25 and by Captain A. F. Moulvi from 1-10-25 to 31-7-26,

119. The relations of the Okhamandal authorities with the neighbouring States of Porebander, Nawanager and Cutch continued to be cordial and the Police of these States afforded effective co-operation to the State Police in the detection of crime. Extradition of one person in one case was obtained from Nawanager. There was no case of extradition from Okhamandal to any of these States.

120. The outpost Thanas of the Okha Battalion continued to take part in preserving peace and order in the District. The Police also were alive to their sense of duty and crime was assailed as before in a regular and organised manner. The number of cases reported to and taken up by the Police during the year under report was 64. Out of these, 19 ended in conviction, 5 in acquittal, 20 remained on the dormant file, 3 were struck off, 4 were compounded, 3 cases were under disposal by the Magistrate and 10 were under investigation by the Police at the close of the year 1925-26.

121. During the year 15 cases, in which 20 Waghers were involved, were tried by the First Class Magistrate, Okhamandal as against 12 cases in which 17 Waghers were involved during the preceding year. Of these 20 Waghers, 12 were convicted and 8 were either discharged or acquitted. 3 cases, in which 5 persons were involved, were sent up for trial to the Commissioner as Sessions Judge. Of these 5 persons, one was convicted, 1 was acquitted and the case against the remaining three was pending at the close of the year. No appeal against the decision of the First Class Magistrate was preferred in any of the Wagher cases disposed of by him to the Commissioner's Court.

122 Five Waghers of steady character were exempted from attendance at the daily roll call, while six new suspicious characters were subjected to the roll call system during the year. One Wagher liable to attend the roll call died. The total number on the roll at the close of the year was, therefore, the same as in the preceding year.

123. The system of issuing passes from the Commissioner's office to every Wagher going out of Okhamandal was discontinued except in the case of suspicious characters whose names were borne on the roll. The neighbouring territories were notified accordingly in the beginning of the year.

124. The six Wagher Patels of Nagnath, Vasai, Vachhu, Baradia, Mulvasar and Tober worked as Mulki Patels in addition to their Revenue work. They were paid Rs. 2 p.m. extra for this work. All of them worked satisfactorily.

125. The rains failed in the latter part of the season and the harvest, therefore, was not satisfactory. Agricultural conditions. Relief measures had to be taken to alleviate the hardships of the ryots, the chief of which are recapitulated below :—

- (1) the recovery of all Tagavi and land assessment arrears was suspended ;
- (2) full suspension of the recovery of land assessment and local cess was granted to the village of Kuranga which was very hard-hit ;
- (3) suspension of half the land assessment of the year was granted to the villages of Dwarka, Vachhu, Baradia, Mevasa, Varvala, Batisa, Old Dhrewad, Marypur and Vasai ;
- (4) the execution of the decrees issued by the civil courts against the Khatedars was suspended ;
- (5) out of the Tagavi grant of Rs. 15,000 sanctioned for the purchase of seed, Koses, bullocks, etc., sums aggregating Rs. 11,931 were advanced to poor cultivators. This was exclusive of sums amounting to Rs. 4,198-0-7 advanced from the Wagher funds ;
- (6) arrears of land assessment to the extent of Rs 42,343-13-11 were written off in commemoration of the celebration of the Golden Jubilee of His Highness the Maharaja Saheb's rule ;

- (7) the compulsory storage of hay stacks at the Thanas proved to be of great help to the Waghers in maintaining their cattle.

126. The following comparative statement shows the number of Wagher Khatedars holding land in Okhamandal :—

Class of Khatedars.	No. at the close of 1924-25.	No. at the close of 1925-26.
1. Khatedars holding Salami lands...	693	707
2. Khatedars holding land on full assessment	227	237
3. Khatedars holding both Salami land and land on full assessment...	227	225
4. Khatedars holding 'Kiraya' land...	335	324
Total...	1,482	1,493

127. The following comparative statement shows the extent of land in Bighas under cultivation by the Waghers :—

	Salami land.	Full assessment land.	Total.
1. Land in the possession of the Waghers at the beginning of the year 1925-26	27,093-11	9,259-2	36,352-13
2. Land taken up in 1925-26	507-11	684-9	1,192- 0
3. Land relinquished or resumed during 1925-26...	80- 7	31-8	111-15
4. Land in possession of the Waghers at the close of the year 1925-26	27,520-15	9,912-3	37,432-18

128. The recovery of land revenue and arrears from the Waghers during the year was as under:—

Recovery of land revenue.

	Amount.	Recovery in 1925-26.	Balance at the close of 1925-26
1. Arrears at the close of 1924-25	60,721-3-4	6,890-13-7	53,830-5-9
2. Amount due for 1925-26...	14,464-4-0	5,053-11-8	9,410-8-4
3. Total due to Government...	75,185-7-4	11,944-9-3	63,240-14-1

Out of the total recovery of Rs. 11,944-9-3 shown above, Rs. 5,800 represent the amount written off from Waghers as per His Highness' orders regarding remission of past arrears in commemoration of the celebration of the Golden Jubilee of His Highness' rule. Thus Rs. 6,144-6-7 only were recovered in cash.

129. The Forest Department has been busy with the work of growing forest in this district for the last seven years, but the want of protection to the young plants from the strong western winds which blight all growth and the precarious seasons are a great handicap to their success. However, the work is making slow but steady progress and the department has succeeded in planting some trees in several villages. During the year under report suitable land for the growth of forest in the village of Khatumba was ordered to be handed over to the Forest department and the unsuitable Khari land in possession of that department was ordered to be relinquished to the Revenue department.

130. The compulsory Savings Fund, which was started some years ago, has proved of great help to the Waghers. During the year under report Rs. 1,139-3-9 were added to the balance at the close of the preceding year which was

Rs. 3,225-2-6. This being a lean year, Rs. 4,198-0-7 were advanced as loans for purchasing seeds, bullocks, etc. and for sustenance purposes. At the end of the year there was a balance of Rs. 166-5-8 only. Owing to bad seasons coming in rapid succession, the Waghers have been unable to contribute to a greater extent than has been referred to, to this fund.

131. During the year under report, 37 cases of marriages and betrothals among Waghers were registered in the Commissioner's Office.

Marriage and other family disputes.

The Wagher Panchayat received two applications for settling ordinary disputes among Waghers. They disposed of one of these cases and the other remained pending at the end of the year.

132. The Wagher Boarding House worked satisfactorily.

Education. 3 students of grown up age were discharged, 2 were sent to the Kala Bhavan at Paroda for receiving training in carpentry and 4 new students were admitted. The total number at the end of the year was 22. The boys attend the local schools and are progressing well in their studies. 5 of them topped the lists of successful candidates in their respective classes. All these were awarded merit prizes. The boys in the carpentry and smithy classes also worked well. The workshop turned out some fine pieces of furniture during the year.

The boys were well looked after. Boy Scout Uniforms were furnished to them. Their conduct is reported to be satisfactory and their health was good throughout the year.

133. There was no epidemic in the district during any part of the year and the general health of the people was fairly good. The dispensaries maintained by Government were largely availed of by the public. The travelling dispensary is also proving of great assistance as usual.

Health.

134. During the year no change was made in the strength of the Okha Battalion. The cost of maintaining it was as under :—

	Rs.	as.	p.
1. Pay, compensation and allowance	1,03,944	4	10
2. Gratuity to men invalided.	1,282	0	0
3. Disbursement of pensions	3,393	2	11
4 Travelling allowances, etc.	+29	0	4
Total....	1,09,048	8	1

The Battalion furnished 17 Thanas in the district consisting of 20 non-commissioned officers and 58 men as in the preceding year. No change was made in the location of the Thanas. The duty of maintaining order in the district which is to a great extent in the hands of these Regimental outposts was carried out efficiently during the year.

The casualties in the Regiment were as follows :—

1. Deserters	10.	4. Retired with gratuity	4.
2. Deceased	3.	5. Retired on pension	10.
3. Discharged	4.	6. Dismissed	2.
Total		33	

The total number of recruits enlisted was 31. There were only 2 vacancies in the Regiment on 31-7-26.

The teaching staff of the Regimental School consisted of 1 Head Master, 1 English Teacher and 4 Assistant School Masters. The total number of men and boys on the register was 113 at the end of the year and the daily average attendance was 87·8. There are five classes in the school in which English, Urdu, Marathi, Gujarati and Hindi are taught, more or less according to the curriculum in force in the ordinary schools of the State. The Annual examinations were held in May 1926. Out of 32 candidates who appeared thereat, 30 were successful.

The health of the Regiment continued to be good; there were no epidemics during any part of the year under report. All the children in the lines were vaccinated. The discipline of the Regiment continued to be good and the conduct of the men satisfactory. The Regiment was again put through a regular course of training and the drill continued to improve. 333 men of all ranks went through the annual musketry course. The average points per man were 39.09 out of a total of 60 points per man.

New Khakhi Uniforms, new Khakhi Haversacks and water bottles were issued to the Regiment. They cost respectively Rs. 8,613-6-2, 1,024-8-5 and 1,716-13-3.

In February 1926, 2 N. C. O's were sent to Baroda to undergo training in the New Bayonet practice and to receive Physical Training. They returned in May after obtaining certificates from the Commanding Officer, 2nd Regiment of Infantry, Baroda. They are now training the N. C. O's and men of the Regiment.

135. The Observatory at Dwarka worked satisfactorily and both Dwarka and Samiani Light Houses exhibited proper lights.

Observatory and
Light Houses.

136. Mr. E. H. Kealy, C.I.E., I.C.S., Resident at Baroda, visited Okhamandal during the year. He arrived at Dwarka on 18th October 1925 and left for Baroda on 23rd Idem.

Resident's visit.

137. Among the distinguished personages who visited Dwarka during the year were :—

Other visitors.

1. His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore.
2. His Highness the Maharaja of Benares.
3. The Maharajadhiraj of Darbhanga.
4. Major H. M. Wightwick, First Assistant Resident at Baroda.

138. The arrangements in Okhamandal relating to the Wagahs and the Okha Battalion are thus working satisfactorily.

Administrative
arrangements satis-
factory.

CHAPTER II

PROTECTION

A. Legislation

139. The power of making laws is one of the prerogatives of His Highness the Maharaja Saheb. Legislative Council. His Highness is, however, assisted in this important task both by his Ministers and by the Legislative Council on many important occasions. The Legislative Council consists of 27 members, including the President—the Dewan. The members of the State Executive Council are ex-officio members of the Legislative Council. Besides these, there are seven nominated official members and four non-official members. The number of elected members is ten, who are elected by the Mahal Panchayats in the State, which form the constituencies. The proceedings of the Council are governed by the Rules laid down for the purpose, its decisions being of the nature of recommendations to His Highness.

140. The Council met three times during the year, the third Session being specially for the discussion on the Budget. The first Session was held on the 1st of October 1925 when all the members were present. The following matters were placed on the Agenda for discussion on behalf of Government :—

- (1) Question of revising the grades of trained and untrained teachers of the English schools.
- (2) Arbitration Act Bill.
- (3) Pre-emption Act.
- (4) Penal Code and Criminal Procedure Code Amendment Bill.
- (5) Entertainments Duty Bill.
- (6) Cotton Ginning and Pressing Factories Act Bill.

The consideration of the question of revising the grades of teachers was referred to a Committee which after some deliberations unanimously agreed with the proposals of the department. Out of the 5 Bills, Nos. 3 and 5 were withdrawn by Government and the remaining three were finally passed by the Dhara Sabha.

The Second Session was held on the 25th March 1926 when 25 members were present. The following Bills were introduced by the Government for discussion :—

- (1) The Criminal Procedure Code as revised by the Select Committee.
- (2) Village Protection Bill.
- (3) Court Fees Act Bill.
- (4) Suits Valuation Act Bill.
- (5) Vishishta Panchayat Act Bill.
- (6) Steam Boilers' Inspection Act Bill.

Out of these, Nos. 3, 4 and 5 were referred to select Committees for detailed consideration. Nos. 1 and 6 were finally passed by the Dhara Sabha and as regards No. 2 it was decided that the Bill would be referred to the Huzur for final orders with the opinion of the Dhara Sabha.

141. The administrative work with regard to legislation is entrusted to the Nyaya Mantri or Legal Remembrancer to the State. He also shares the work of inspection of the Courts in the State and during the year, Mr. V. D. Satghare, who held the office of the Nyaya Mantri, inspected the District and several Munsiffs' Courts in the Baroda and Naosari districts.

142 During the year, at the instance of His Highness the Maharaja Saheb, the work of up-to-date and authoritative publication of Acts and Rules in force, with a view to make them available for sale to the public and for the use of officers and pleaders, was specially taken in hand under the supervision of an Assistant specially appointed for the purpose. By the end of the year 47 Acts were prepared and sent to the Press for publication.

143. The Nyaya Mantri Office published 40 Acts, 30 sets of Rules, 8 Circulars and 17 Notifications.
 Acts, Rules and Circulars.

144. Out of these 40 Acts, 34 were amending enactments, 5 consolidating measures and the remaining one was an original piece of legislation.
 Important Acts.

The five consolidating measures were as under :—

- (1) City Improvement and Town-planning Act.
- (2) Arbitration Act.
- (3) General Clauses Act.
- (4) Steam-Boiler's Inspection Act.
- (5) Banker's Books of Evidence Act.

It is needless to go through the details of the amending enactments and the consolidating measures, as the former only effected necessary modifications in the various Acts and the latter revised and embodied in themselves subsequent law on the subject and the Case law decided by several High Courts as well. The Cotton Ginning and Pressing Factories' Act was an original piece of legislation, and is intended as a supplementary measure to the Cotton Transport Restriction Act. The object of the Act is to put the trade in a position to protect itself from adulteration of inferior Cotton by providing for the marking of bales and the record of ownership and by further providing that unmarked bales are not good tender in fulfillment of a contract, if marked bales are demanded by the purchaser. The Act provides for the maintenance of registers for statistical returns, for the use of correct scales and weights and for structural improvement in Cotton Ginning and Pressing Factories. The main features of the Act have been borrowed from the Indian Cotton and Ginning Factories' Act (Act No. XII of 1925) with certain modifications as regards punishment.

145. Among the Rules framed or passed during the year, specific mention may be made of the Rules. following, the rest being only amendments in the existing Rules :—

- (1) Rules for levying cess on water of the Chikhli Bandhara.
- (2) Rules regarding Huzur Civil Appeals and sub-rules framed thereunder.
- (3) Rules regarding Huzur Criminal Appeal.
- (4) Medical Code.

146. Out of the 8 Circulars, Circular No. 1 and 8 are of importance. The rest pertain to certain provisions of Rules about Government Servants. By section 26 of the Rules of this office, Heads of Departments are required to appoint a Kamdar to look after Civil Suits or appeals filed by or against Government. It was, however, observed that these Kamdars did not attend the Courts to instruct the Government pleaders with the result that the latter sometimes could not supply the necessary information to the Court when required. By Circular No. 1 these Kamdars are directed to attend at the time when the suits or appeals are conducted in Courts. Circular No. 8 did away with the necessity of affixing Baroda Stamps on receipts of payment of salary or Bhatta to officers of the State outside the Baroda Territory. Receipts bearing stamps of Foreign Territories where such payment is made, are now held to be valid. The payee is thus absolved from the burden of double Stamp-duty.

The Notifications issued by this office, were 17 in number and can be classified under the following four heads :—

- (1) Notifying the date of the Session of the Dhara Sabha.
- (2) Notifying the appointment of members of the Dhara Sabha.

- (3) Notifying lists of authoritative publications of Acts and Rules which were available to the public from the State Press.
- (4) Inviting suggestions to amend the Local Companies' Act.

The elected members of the Dhara Sabha brought resolutions in the Dhara Sabha to amend the Local Companies' Act which they thought was not adequate enough to safeguard the interests of share-holders. Notification No. 5 was issued from this office asking for suggestions from the public as to what amendments in the Act they proposed, to remedy the evils complained of.

147. During the year under report the following 13 Bills were published for inviting suggestions from the public :—

- (1) Penal Code Amendment Bill.
- (2) Criminal Procedure Code amendment Bill.
- (3) Entertainments Duty Bill.
- (4) Cotton Ginning and Pressing Factories Act Bill.
- (5) Arbitration Act Bill as revised by the Select Committee.
- (6) Vishishta Panchayats Act Bill.
- (7) Criminal Procedure Code Bill as revised by the Select Committee.
- (8) Medical Code Bill.
- (9) Court-fees Act Bill.
- (10) Suits Valuation Act Bill.
- (11) Village Protection Act Bill.
- (12) Record of Rights Bill.
- (13) Civil Procedure Code amendment Bill.

148 As usual, the Legal Remembrancer submitted a statement to the Huzur about the several Foreign Legislation. Acts passed in British India during the last year with his opinion for adopting some of them in our State.

149 The Legal Remembrancer had also the charge of the Niyam Branch of the Khangi Office and during the year he approved and settled several Niyams which were subsequently published by that Branch.

150. The Legal Remembrancer has also to watch over the operations of the Infant Marriage Act. The following tables will show the results of the operations of the Act :—

I. Applications for exemption and offences.

Year.	Applications for exemption.		Offences against the Act.		Percentage of fines more than Rs. 10.	Remarks.
	No. of applications.	Percentage of rejections	No. of cases disposed.	Percentage of convictions.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1924-25	12	...	7,545	83.1	10.2	
1925-26	5	...	7,080	83.7	7.9	

II. Analysis of percentage of persons granted exemption according to castes.

Year.	Brahmins.	Kshatriyas.	Beniyas.	Artisans.	Kolis.	Kunbis.	Dheds and Bhangis.	Others.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1924-25	16.6	8.3	16.6	...	...	...	...	58.5	
1925-26	20	20	60	...	...	...	...	...

III. Analysis of percentage of convicted according to castes.

Year.	Brahmins.	Kshatriyas.	Baniyas.	Artisans.	Kolis.	Kunbis.	Dheds and Bhangis.	Others.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1924-25	3.5	5.8	1.9	5.7	19.1	16.4	17	30.6	
1925-26	3.5	3.4	1.7	4.3	20.2	17.9	13.9	35.1	

IV. Table of Infant Marriages penalised, allowed and those beyond the prescribed age-limit.

Year.	Number of registered marriages.				Remarks.
	Contracted after the prescribed age-limit.	Exempted marriages.	Marriages penalised.	Percentage of marriages below age, to the total number.	
1	2	3	4	5	6
1916 ...	7,022	30	2,246	24.5	
1917 ...	8,911	15	4,245	40.	
1918 ...	6,857	115	3,172	32.4	
1919 ...	7,677	296	2,387	25.9	
1920 ...	10,398	8	4,311	29.3	
1921 ...	8,434	6	3,175	27.2	
1922-23	12,742	89	6,624	34.	
1923-24	12,489	380	6,107	34.	
1924-25	12,737	12	6,403	33.4	
1925-26	10,304	4	5,459	34.7	

From the foregoing table No. I it will be seen that there were 5 applications for exemption as against 12 last year and all of them were granted. The Courts seem to be indulgent in

their treatment of applications made for seeking exemption under the act. Table No. II shows that out of these applications 20 p.c. proceeded from Brahmins, 20 p.c. from Kshatriya and 60 p.c. from the Baniyas. The common ground for accepting all these applications is stated to have been the extreme old age or bed-ridden condition of the parents or guardians. The number of cases disposed was 7,080 as against 7,545 last year and the percentage of convictions increased by .6. Out of the total number of persons convicted (11,117), only 882 persons were fined more than Rs. 10. The Courts seem to have been lenient in awarding punishment and led away by mercy or sympathy overlooking the real object of the enactment. Table No. III shows that the greater percentage of convictions goes to the Kolis and others who are still backward to realise the benevolent objects of the enactment.

151. The number of applications for exemptions is now nominal (5) and does not need any discussion. The number of cases of offences against the provisions of the Act shows a decrease of 500. However, the Courts seem to have been indulgent in awarding punishments.

B. Justice.

152 The Varisht Court is the highest tribunal in the State in Judicial matters, but provision has been made for the admission of appeals and applications against its decisions before the Huzur Nyaya Sabha, subject to certain conditions. The Huzur Nyaya Sabha, which advises His Highness in the exercise of the appellate and revisional jurisdiction, is composed of the Legal Remembrancer, a Judge of the Varisht Court not connected with the case under consideration and the Huzur Kamdar, but when functions of the Huzur Kamdar and the Legal Remembrancer are entrusted to one person, one of the Naib Dewans or some one of the retired Judges of the Varisht Court is invited. His Highness has been pleased to order that Messrs. Gokhale and Sarabhai Majumdar, two

retired Judges of the Varisht Court should be invited according to the exigency of the occasion. The Huzur Nyaya Sabha generally holds its Sessions four times in the year and continues to work until the cases on hand are disposed of; but for special reasons special Sessions have to be held.

153 The following table will show the work done by the Nyaya Sabha for the years 1924-25 and 1925-26 :—

Nature of the case.	Arrears of the last year.		New files.		Disposed of during the year.		Pending at the end of the year.	
	1924-25.	1925-26.	1924-25.	1925-26.	1924-25.	1925-26.	1924-25.	1925-26.
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Appeals.								
a) Civil.	54	52	40	29	42	28	52	53
(b) Criminal.	4	6	16	13	14	14	6	5
Extra ordinary applications.								
(a) Civil.	12	17	30	23	25	31	17	9
(b) Criminal.	5	7	35	32	33	32	7	7
Total.	75	82	121	97	114	105	82	74

The arrears of Civil appeals at the end amounted to 53 as compared with 52 of the last year. Out of 53 Civil appeals, 12 were pending service of summons, 11 were ready for hearing, 8 were under consideration and opinions were awaited, 7 were submitted to the Huzur for orders and in 15 cases papers were under print. As regards criminal appeals, 1 was pending service of summons, 2 were submitted to the Huzur and 2 were ready for hearing; 16 extra-ordinary applications remained undisposed of, as parties had applied for postponement.

The Khata Nihaya Sadar Adalat.

154. The Khata Nihaya Sadar Adalat is the highest departmental tribunal for disposing of appeals and revision applications against the decisions of Heads of Departments, Ministers and the Honourable Council.

155. The Adalat disposes of cases in its own jurisdiction when appeals and revision applications are to be disallowed or to be remanded back to the Departments, but in cases where they are to be allowed, it submits them to the Huzur for final orders with its recommendations. During the year under report, there were two Benches:— One was composed of Shrimant Dewan Bahadur Ganpatrao Gaekwad and the Nyaya Mantri and the other was composed of the Nyaya Mantri and Mr. R. R. Kothawala a retired Suba of the State. Whenever Shrimant Dewan Bahadur Ganpatrao Gaekwad and the Nyaya Mantri were engaged in the Huzur Nyaya Sabha, the Bench was composed of R. B. G. H. Desai and Mr. R. R. Kothawala. The following table shows the work done by the Adalat in the year 1924-25 and 1925-26.

Year.	Arrears in the beginning of the year.	New appeals.	Total.	Appeals disposed of.	Arrears at the end of the year.
1	2	3	4	5	6
1924-25	76	204	280	214	66
1925-26	66	233	299	210	89

156. 58 appeals were submitted to the Huzur with the opinion of the Bench. Together with the 8 appeals remaining undisposed of from the preceding year, the file showed a total of 66. 55 appeals were disposed of by the Huzur, leaving a balance of

11. In 26 appeals the recommendations of the Adalat were approved of and sanctioned, and in 6 appeals they were accepted with some modifications.

157. Rules for the conduct of Huzur Departmental Appeals were again revised.

Revising and recasting Rules of Departmental Appeals.

Civil Courts.

158. Besides these two tribunals of appeals, the number of courts for the administration of civil and criminal justice was as follows :—

Number of Courts.						
Varishta Court	...	...	...	...	...	1
District Judges' Courts including the City District Judge	...	...	...	...	...	5
Okhamandal Session Court	...	...	...	...	...	1
Assistant Judges' Courts	...	...	...	...	...	3
Extra Assistant Judge's Court	...	...	...	...	...	1
Subordinate Judges' Courts...	...	...	...	...	...	24
District Magistrates' Courts	...	...	...	...	...	5
Revenue officers as Ex-Officio Magistrates (doing executive work )	...	...	...	...	...	85
Ordinary Magistrates' Courts (doing Judicial work).	...	...	...	...	...	24
Revenue Magistrates exercising 2nd and 3rd Class Magisterial Powers (judicial )	...	...	...	...	...	18
Private persons invested with 3rd Class Magisterial Powers (judicial )	...	...	...	...	...	2
Village Munsiffs' Courts	...	...	...	...	...	4
Other Officers invested with Civil Powers	...	...	...	...	...	5
Courts of Village Panchayats exercising Civil and Criminal Powers	...	...	...	...	...	47
Courts of Vishishta Panchayats exercising Civil and Criminal Powers	...	...	...	...	...	8

The Varishta Court is the highest court of appeal in the State in all Judicial matters. It has no original jurisdiction as elsewhere. There are, as a rule, three Judges in the Varishta Court, but owing to the pressure of arrears for a great part of the year, Mr. Motilal C. Desai was appointed as an additional Judge of the Court.

158A. The condition of work during the year in the Civil Courts in their Original jurisdiction as compared with the previous year is shown in the following table :—

Year.	Suits filed.	Disposal including the pending cases of the previous year.
1	2	3
1925-26	20,403	19,818
1924-25	21,071	19,653

It will be seen that the disposal during the year was greater than that in the preceding year. The number of suits pending disposal at the end of the year was 8,331 as against 7,746 last year. Of these, 1,763 ordinary suits were of more than one year's duration as against 1,121 in the last year. Under the provisions of the New Civil Procedure Code, in suits such as mortgage, taking accounts, etc., the Civil Courts have to frame preliminary decrees and the suits cannot be said to be finally disposed of until the final decrees are framed. This is one of the reasons for the increase in the number.

159. The percentage of ordinary suits according to the subject matter is as follows :—

Percentage of Ordinary Suits and their classification.

Classes.	Percentages.	
	1925-26	1924-25
1	2	3
Relating to money matters	71.9	72.1
Relating to immoveable property	23.2	22.3
Relating to other matters	4.9	5.6
Total...	100	100

160. The disposal of ordinary suits is shown below :—
Disposal of Ordinary Suits.

Year.	Cases filed.	Valuation in rupees.	Disposal including pending cases.	Average duration (in days.)		Pending at the end of the year.
				Contested cases.	Non-contested cases.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1925-26	8,993	39,41,733	8,571	250	48	6,207
1924-25	10,143	39,57,989	9,153	229	75	5,785

161. The disposal of Small Cause Suits is shown below :—
Disposal of Small Cause Suits.

Year.	Cases filed.	Valuation in rupees.	Disposal including pending cases.	Average duration (in days.)		Pending at the end of the year.
				Contested cases.	Non-contested cases.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1925-26	11,410	7,76,641	11,247	73	43	2,124
1924-25	10,928	7,20,187	10,500	61	39	1,961

162. The following table will show the file, disposal and average duration of Darkhasts for the execution of decrees :—

Year.	File.	Disposal including old pending cases.	Pending at the end of the year.	Average duration (in days.)
1	2	3	4	5
1925-26	15,039	14,877	4,813	179
1924-25	16,848	16,109	4,651	177

163. The following table will show the percentages of the modes in which 14,877 Darkhasts were disposed of as compared with 16,109 of the previous year :—

Year.	Stayed at the request of parties.	Struck off the file.	Dealt with by Rajinamas, etc.	Actual execution.
1	2	3	4	5
1925-26	25.1	11.8	44.9	18.2
1924-25	25.8	13.5	42.7	18

164. The various modes in which satisfaction of Darkhasts was effected in which the aid of Courts was solicited are as shown below :—

Modes of satisfaction of Darkhasts.

Ways in which satisfaction was obtained.	Percentage of Dar-khasts in ordinary suits.		Percentage of Dar-khasts in Small Cause Suits.	
	1925-26.	1924-25.	1925-26.	1924-25.
1	2	3	4	5
Satisfaction was obtained by—				
actual payment of money.	49.4	59.2	89	88.7
delivery of possession.	20.7	19	...	...
sale of immoveable property.	19	16.2	...	...
sale of moveable property.	4.8	2.3	3.8	4
imprisonment of judgment debtors.	4.6	2.3	6.6	7
giving periodical instalments.	1.5	1	.6	.3
Total...	100	100	100	100

From the above it will appear that there is an appreciable increase in the proportion of judgment debtors being put into prison to compel them to satisfy the decrees passed against them. It is strongly insisted that the decrees of judicial Courts should be satisfied by payment and the result shows the comparatively better help given to decree holders.

165. The following table will show the file, disposal, arrears and average duration of Civil Appeals:—
Civil Appeals.

Year.	File with arrears.	Valuation in rupees.	Disposal including old pending cases.	Pending at the end of the year.	Average duration (in days).	
					Contested appeals.	Non-contested appeals.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1925-26	2,547	6,30,447	1,388	1,159	268	106
1924-25	2,619	9,28,414	1,518	1,101	219	95

166. Result of Civil Appeals :—

Result of Civil
Appeals.

Year.	Percentage of First Appeals decided by Varishta Court.			Percentage of Second Appeals decided by Varishta Court.			Percentage of Appeals decided by District Judges.		
	Con- firmed	Re- versed.	Modi- fied.	Con- firmed	Re- versed.	Modi- fied.	Confirmed	Reversed.	Modified.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	8	10
1925-26	64.9	14.5	20.6	79.1	11.1	9.8	60.4	18.7	20.9
1924-25	56.4	5.3	38.3	81.6	7.1	11.3	58.4	22.8	18.8

Village Munsiffs.

167. At the beginning of the year under report there were 4 village Munsiffs' Courts viz. at Petlad, Padra, Kambliwada (under Patan) and Variav (under Kamrej.). The following table will show the work done by these Courts :—

Year.	Number of suits filed including arrears.	Number of suits disposed of.	Arrears.	Average duration (in days.)
1925-26	344	336	8	30
1924-25	332	316	16	33

The Conciliators.

168. The system of Conciliation was in force in 19 Talukas including the Baroda City, as against 18 in the preceding year. The number

Conciliators

of Conciliators during the year under report was 96 as against 110 in the last year. The state of the file and its disposal was as under :—

Districts.	1925-26.			1924-25.		
	File with arrears.	Disposal.	Arrears.	File with Arrears.	Disposal.	Arrears.
Baroda	544	528	16	868	841	27
Kadi.	498	489	9	553	548	5
Navsari.	43	42	1	76	76	...
Amreli.	36	36	...	43	37	6
Total	1,121	1,095	26	1,540	1,502	38

There is an appreciable decrease in suits filed before Conciliators.

The Panchayats.

169. In addition to Village Munsiffs and Conciliators, there were in all 55 Panchayats (8 Vishishta Panchayats and 47 Village Panchayats) empowered to dispose of judicial work during the year, as against 54 in the last year. The following table will show the civil work done by them :—

Year.	File including arrears.	Disposal.	In Plff's favour.	In Deft's favour.	Average duration (in days.)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1925-26	198	194	156	38	6
1924-25	228	227	192	35	5

Possessory Suits.

170. The file and disposal of Possessory Suits was as under :—

File and disposal of Possessory Suits.

Year.	Suits for disposal.	Suits disposed of.	Pending	Average duration (in days.)
1	2	3	4	5
1925-26	717	554	167	61
1924-25	859	671	188	62

171. There is an increase of 21 and 49 days respectively in the duration of contested regular suits

Increase in the duration of contested ordinary suits and appeals,

and appeals which is due to the disposal of old pending cases of long duration.

Criminal Justice.

172 The following table shows the file, disposal and average duration of Criminal cases :—

File, disposal and average duration of Criminal cases.

Year.	File.	Disposal including old pending cases.	Average duration (in days).	Average duration of summary cases (in days).
1925-26	22,234	19,811	14	2
1924-25	21,486	19,547	12	2

173. The number of cases tried by the Courts of Sessions

Judges was 209 as against 165 last year.

No. of Cases tried by Sessions Judges.

174. The number of accused persons whose cases were disposed of was 43,700 as against 44,355 No. of accused tried and No. of witnesses examined. in the preceding year, showing an average of two accused persons in each case. The total number of witnesses examined in Criminal Cases in the year was 18,439 as against 19,392 in the preceding year.

175. The following table shows the percentage of different kinds of offences :—

Year.	Against property.	Against person.	Against public justice.	Against tranquility.	Against marriage.	Fabricating false documents.	Against coinage.	Regarding public service.	Regarding infant marriages.	Other offences.
1925-26.	17.2	21.1	...	1.9	1.9	.2	...	.3	36.7	20.7
1924-25.	18.8	22.7	.2	1.6	1.7	...	...	.4	38	15.6

176. The condition as to more serious offences during the year under report will be seen from the following table :—

Year.	Murder.	Culpable homicide.	Grievous hurt.	Rape.	Dacoity.	Robbery.	House breaking.	Forgery.
1925-26.	62	35	284	10	78	116	121	36
1924-25.	63	27	198	7	96	82	156	6

177. Percentage of conviction :—

Percentage of conviction.

Year.	Convicted.	Acquitted or discharged.
1	2	3
1925-26	36.2	63.8
1924-25	35.4	64.6

178. Statement of the accused receiving punishment.

Punishment.

Year.	Capital sentence.	Fines only.	Imprisonment with or without fine.	Imprisonment with whipping.	Order to furnish security.	Whipping only.	Solitary confinement.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1925-26	2	14,252	1,223	...	112	9	...
1924-25	1	14,289	1,094	...	98	16	...

179. Criminal Appeals.

Criminal Appeals.

Year.	File including old pending cases.	Disposal.	Percentage of Cases		
			Confirmed.	Modified.	Reversed or remanded for retrial.
1	2	3	4	5	6
1925-26	465	416	57.7	10	32.3
1924-25	541	487	62	11	27

INAMDAR'S WORK.

180. The number of Inamdars invested with criminal powers was 7 against 8 in the last year. Inamdar's work. Of these, only one Inamdar, viz: the

Inamdar of Sultanpura did some work. He had with him 2 cases involving 4 accused. The cases against them were compounded.

CRIMINAL WORK BY PANCHAYATS.

181. The following table shows the criminal work turned out by Panchayats :—

Criminal work done
by Panchayats.

Year.	File with arrears.		Disposal.		Balance at the end of the year.	
	No. of cases.	No. of accused.	No. of cases.	No. of accused.	No. of cases.	No. of accused.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1925-26	70	127	70	127	...	...
1924-25	98	147	97	144	1	3

Out of the total number of 127 accused tried by the Panchayats, 82 were convicted and fined and 45 were acquitted. The corresponding figures for the last year were 90 and 54.

PLEADERS AND MUKHTYARS.

182. The number of Pleaders and Mukhtyars in the several courts of this State was 407 against 413 last year. 19 new Pleaders were permanently enrolled for the first time during the year. 7 Pleaders died during the year and the names of 18 Pleaders were struck off the Register. Out of the total number of Pleaders, 3 are Barristers-at-law, 175 LL.B. s, 17 High Court Pleaders, 17 District Pleaders and the remaining 195 have either passed the local Pleaders' or Mukhtyar's Examination.

183. The administrative work of the department was done by Mr. G. K. Dandeker, BA., LL.B., Administrative work. throughout the year from 1-8-25 to

13-6-26 and from 14-6-26 to 31-7-26 he did the administrative work as the Chief Justice and during the rest of the year he did it as a Second Judge.

184. During the year, the Chief Justice inspected two district courts, two District Magistrate's Courts, three Vibhag Magistrate's Courts, five Mahal Magistrate's Courts, seven Munsiff's Courts and one First Class Magistrate's Court. Several courts in the Baroda and Naosari districts were inspected, in addition to these, by the Nyaya Mantri.

185. The Department issued in all 12 Civil and 2 Criminal Circulars. The following two were important from the point of view of reforms introduced during the year :—

1. A circular was issued regarding the reciprocal arrangements as regards the execution of decrees passed by the courts of the Baroda Camp and by the courts of this State.
2. A circular was issued to settle the point of taking Court Fees stamp for calling witness in Possessory Suits.

186. The total receipts of all Civil and Criminal Courts including stamps, court fees, fines and other items was Rs 6,10,854, against Rs. 6,06,051 in the preceding year, and the expenditure Rs. 5,96,090 and Rs. 5,96,800 respectively.

C. The Army.

187. The Baroda Army has a very chequered, romantic and eventful history and has gone through many phases of evolution.

188. The Marathas conquered Gujarat by repeated invasions of large bodies of horsemen. As soon as it became necessary to garrison forts and Thanas, an infantry composed of foreigners

was employed. Until the middle of the 18th century, Damajirao prospered after the true Maratha fashion. The latter half of the century was marked by a falling off in the quality of the Maratha troops and a consequent introduction of mercenaries, mainly Arabs. At the commencement of the 19th century the State, weakened by a prolonged internecine struggle, and threatened by the ascendancy of the mercenaries surrendered much territory to subsidise a British force. There was but little assured peace for twenty years there-after, though the Arabs were gradually disbanded. The State Army was maintained, though reduced in numbers. The British Government had meanwhile called on the Maharaja to set aside a portion of his cavalry to serve as a contingent force, which cavalry was employed to do service beyond the borders of the State. The Sardars losing all sense of responsibility for their Pagas, lost all consideration except in so far as they became a bone of contention between the Gaekwad and the British authorities. The dispute about the disposal of the contingent led to the establishment of a small organised body of cavalry called the Gujarat Irregular Horse, which was kept up till the middle of the 19th century. Latterly, a small army composed of regulars, and consisting of Artillery, Cavalry and Infantry, was organised and maintained.

189. During the recent War, the scheme of the Imperial Service Troops was weighed in the balance and was to some extent found wanting. A new policy has now been adopted which provides for the lending of British Officers for training of State troops or for appointment as military advisers; and for giving facilities for training of Indian State Officers in British Military Schools and Colleges.

The Government of Baroda have accepted the scheme on certain conditions and are prepared to equip the army accordingly if the negotiations are satisfactorily settled.

190. The actual strength of the Regular Force at the close of the year as compared with its fixed strength was as follows :—

Strength of the Regular Force.	of the year as compared with its fixed strength was as follows :—
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Description of Force.	Fixed strength.			Actual strength.			Remarks.
	Effectives.	Non-effectives.	Total.	Effectives.	Non-effectives.	Total.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
ARTILLERY.							* Amalgamated with the rest as a temporary measure. † Amalgamated with the rest.
L. F. Battery	93	67	160	71	42	113	
Total...	93	67	160	71	42	113	
CAVALRY.							
1st Cavalry...	455	24	479	430	16	446	
2nd Cavalry...	455	24	479	436	16	452	
3rd Cavalry...	455	24	479	... *	... *	... *	
The Guards....	135	10	145	134	7	141	
Total...	1,500	82	1,582	1,000	39	1,039	
INFANTRY.							
1st Infantry...	698	29	727	650	30	680	
2nd „	698	49	747	706	34	740	
3rd „	698	29	727	719	34	753	
4th „	516	27	543	... †	... †	... †	
Okha Battalion.	461	14	475	368	17	385	
Total...	3,071	148	3,219	2,443	115	2,558	
The Band ...	111	6	117	58	7	65	
The General and Staff Officers.	6	2	8	4	...	4	
Grand Total...	4,781	305	5,086	3,576	203	3,779	

191. The total strength of the Irregular Force during the year was as follows :—

Strength of the
Irregular.

Horse.

Shilledar.	Shibandi.	Paganihay.	Khalsa.	Total.
908	333	182	577	2,000

Foot.

Shibandi.	Khalsa.	Total.
1,139	667	1,806

192. The cost of maintaining the Regular Force during the year under report is shown in the following table :—

Cost of maintenance.

Year.	Artillery	Cavalry.	Infantry	Band.	General and his staff and Senapati Office.	Medical establishment.	Veterinary establishment.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1925-26	64,206	7,42,571	7,36,399	37,646	56,643	17,481	10,137	16,65,083

193. The Regular force thus cost Rs. 16,65,083 against Rs. 15,85,463 in the previous year. The Reason for increase. increase is mainly due to,

- (1) the higher rates of gram and grass,
- (2) more recruits than the last year being enlisted in the Army, and
- (3) the purchase of Second and Full Dress Uniforms.

The annual average cost for each effective in the Artillery was Rs. 568, in the Cavalry Rs. 715, in the Infantry Rs. 288, and in the Band Rs. 579. Taking the force together, the average cost of an effective was Rs. 538 or about Rs. 45 a month.

194. The expenditure on account of the Irregular Forces comes to Rs. 3,38,015 against Rs. 3,22,784 last year. The increase was mainly due to,

- (1) the higher rate of gram and grass than last year, and
- (2) to the purchase of articles for Huddas.

The average annual cost per head in the Irregular Force was Rs. 763.

195. Taking the Regular and Irregular Forces together, the total cost for the maintenance of the Army comes to Rs. 21,14,569. This together with the amount of Rs. 3,75,000, paid on account of the annual contingent commutation money to the Government of India, which is debited to this department, brings the amount under the head of Army to Rs. 24,07,714 for the year.

The effectives in the Regular Army are classified by religion as under :—

Force.	Hindus	Maho- madans.	Chris- tians.	Total.	Average height.	Average chest measure- ment.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Artillery	49	21	1	71	5'-6"	34"
Cavalry	823	177	...	1,000	5'-6"	33.5"
Infantry	1,907	536	...	2,443	5'-4.5"	32.9"
The band	27	24	7	58	5'-4"	...
Total	2,806	758	8	3,572	5'-5.1"	33.5"

196. The following were some of the important changes introduced in this department :—
 Notable changes.

- (1) 298 Short Enfield Rifles 303 Pattern which were obtained on loan from the Government of India were returned to the Kirkee Arsenal.
- (2) During the year, 119 remounts were purchased for the Army, 81 for the Cavalry Regiments, 20 for the Guards, and 18 for the Huzurat.
- (3) The scarcity allowance at the rate of Rs. 4 for Jat and Rs. 9 for Horse has been continued from 1st September 1925 to 24th February 1926, to the Shiledars whose Jat Nemnook was upto Rs. 75 p.m.
- (4) The Revised Military Pension and Gratuity Rules came into force from 27th November 1925.
- (5) Salaries of some of the followers of the Light Field Battery and the Infantry Regiments were revised from 9th November 1925.
- (6) The Insurance Rules were made applicable to the men enlisted in the Army from 1st August 1925.
- (7) An arrangement was arrived at between this Government and the Government of India by which the Commanding Officers can now withdraw the deposits standing against the names of deserters of the Baroda State Army, in the Postal Savings Bank, for confiscation in favour of the Baroda Government, provided the deposit amount does not exceed Rs. 1,000 in each case.
- (8) Colonel N. G. Shinde was deputed on behalf of the State to give evidence before the Indian Sandhurst Committee at Delhi.

197. General N. G. Shinde was in command of the State Forces, exercising the powers of the Senapati throughout the year except from the 4th January to 25th February 1926, during which short period Lt. Col. Hesketh of the Indian Army held the permanent charge of the General and Col. Shinde held command of the Cavalry and Artillery Brigade. General Hesketh resigned on the 26th of February 1926 and General Shinde was again placed in command from that date. Discipline and efficiency in the Army were well maintained and progress was made as regards the practical training of the troops as far as arms and equipments were available.

D. Police.

198. A regular Police force of modern type was first organised in the State after 1875, during the reign of His Highness the Maharaja Sayajirao III. Before this date, there was no clear line of demarcation between the Army and the Police. The first Police Act was framed six years later in 1881, which has since been revised and brought up-to-date from time to time. The Rules under the Act define the powers and duties of the Police Commissioner, the District Subas, the Police Naib Subas and other Police Officers.

199. The sanctioned strength of the Police Force excluding non-effectives but including the Criminal Investigation Department and the Finger Print Bureau, was 1,023 officers and 4,089 men. The total sanctioned strength of Mounted and Foot Police was 226 and 4,886 respectively.

The sanctioned strength of the Department is classified according to rank and districts as mentioned in the following statement:—

Rank.	Sanctioned Strength								Remarks.
	C I D.	Finger Print Bureau	Baroda.	Kadi	Navsari.	Amreli.	Okhamanda	Total.	
ACTUAL STRENGTH.									
Police Naib Subas...	...	...	1	1	1	1	...	4	* The post of one 3rd grade Fouzdar at Vadnagar in Kadi Dist., has been done away with.
Asstt. Police Naib Subas..	1	...	2	1	...	...	1	4	
Sar Fouzdars ...	1	...	3	3	1	1	...	9	
Fouzdars* ...	3	1	21	15	9	6	2	57	
Naib Fouzdars* ...	5	4	66	70	32	22	4	203	*Carriage Inspector (Naib Fouzdar) whose pay is charged to the Municipality is not included in this.
									One post of Naib Fouzdar is added to the cadre of the Kadi District for Vadnagar Thana.
Jamadars§ ...	...	...	18	20	9	6	1	54	§One post of Jamadar is added to the cadre of the Kadi district
Havaldars*	...	...	254	228	105	69	9	665	Three posts of Havaldars have been done away with in Kadi District.
Regulars Dafedars*	...	...	3	2	1	1	...	7	*The posts of one Dafedar and one Naib Dafedar have been done away with owing to the abolition of the Camel Corps in Kadi district.
„ Naib Dafedar	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Rauk.	Sanctioned Strength								Remarks.
	C. I. D.	Finger Print Bureau.	Baroda.	Kadi.	Navsari.	Amreli.	Okha mandal.	Total.	
DAKHALBAJ POSTS KEPT VACANT.									
Assistant Police Naib Suba	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	
Sar Fouzdar	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	
Fouzdar	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	
Dafedar	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	
Havaladar	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	
Total of officers	10	5	368	340	158	106	16	1023	
ACTUAL STRENGTH									
Sepoys *	10	...	1468	1153	479	341	45	3496	*Six posts of Sepoys in Kadi District have been reduced and kept (Dakhalbaj) vacant.
Regular Swars \$	...	...	63	60	26	33	6	188	\$Fifty Swars of the Camel Corps have been done away with.
DAKHALBAJ (KEPT VACANT).									
Sepoys	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	375	
Swars	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30	
Total of men	10	...	1531	1213	505	374	51	4089	
Grand Total	20	5	1899	1553	663	480	67	5112	

N. B.:—In addition to the above, a temporary establishment consisting of 1 Fouzdar, 1 Jamadar, and 2 Havalgars in C. I. D. has been sanctioned for one year for the present.

200. The Railway Police establishment in Baroda, Kadi, and Naosari remained unaltered during the year.
 Railway and Water Police.

There was no change in the strength of the Water Police in the Kodinar Taluka of the Amreli District. The current expenses of the Motor Launch and boat in Dwarka were Rs. 992-2-5 and one boat in Kodinar was maintained at an annual rental of Rs. 300.

A ship sailing from Goa was overtaken by a storm near Beyt. Prompt help was rendered to it by the Water Police and property consisting of cocoanuts worth Rs. 2,718-10-0 was saved, and handed over to the owner.

201. The distribution of the sanctioned strength excluding non-effectives, the Criminal Investigation Department and the Finger Print Bureau, showing the nature of duties on which they were engaged in each district is shown in the following table :—

District.	Sanctioned strength.	Jail and Treasury guards.	Palace, Office and other guards.	Personal attendance.	Writer orderlies and Head Quarter duties.	Reserve.	Engaged in prevention and detection of crimes.	Vacancies.	Actual Force.
Baroda ...	1,899	131	296	94	110	278	936	54	1845
Kadi ...	1,553	119	44	48	122	249	868	103	1450
Navsari ...	663	82	23	46	36	81	385	10	653
Amreli ...	480	4	15	31	43	119	250	17	463
Okhamandal.	67	4	15	4	4	...	38	2	65
Total ...	4,662	340	394	223	315	727	2477	186	4476

202. The actual force during the year consisted of 2,323 Hindus, 2,147 Mahomedans, and 6 of other religions, as against 2,265, 2,110 and 7 respectively in the preceding year.

Police as divided according to caste and creed.

203. The percentage of men able to read and write was 63·33 as against 62·89 in the previous year.
Education & Training.

The Head Quarters Schools carried out their usual programme of instruction. Drill, discipline and physical training were as usual attended to at the District and the Taluka Head Quarters. Athletic sports were held at Naosari and Amreli and prizes were distributed to the successful competitors. Instructors having experience of Military drill were engaged at the head-quarters of each district for giving instruction in drill to the Policemen. In Baroda four officers were deputed to the Military department for being trained in the use of '303 rifles.

The following number of officers and men passed the departmental examinations during the year :—

Sar Fouzdar's Examination	...	...	...	1
Fouzdar's Examination	...	...	...	6
Naib Fouzdar's Examination	...	...	...	17

204. The number of punishments awarded to officers and men during the year was 2,699 (38 Punishments and Rewards. judicial and 2,661 departmental) as against 3,001 in the preceding year. The percentage of punishments to the actual force was 60·29 against 68·48 in the preceding year. The number of officers and men who received rewards in money in appreciation of their services was 70 and that of those who received special promotions for good work was 7 as against 87 and 30 respectively in the preceding year.

205. The total number of cognizable offences reported to the Police was 2,941 against 3,020, Fluctuations in the number of crimes. excluding cases taken up from the dormant file. The following statement shows fluctuations in the crimes reported to the Police, district by district, for the last five years, excluding cases taken up from the dormant file :—

Year.	Baroda.	Kadi.	Naosari.	Amreli.	Okhamandal.	Total.
1921-22...	1,327	1,125	343	186	20	3,001
1922-23...	1,116	1,314	272	174	26	2,902
1923-24...	1,074	1,356	277	252	21	2,933
1924-25...	1,021	1,477	258	227	37	3,020
1925-26...	1,116	1,279	288	194	64	2,941

The following comparative statement gives particulars of all reported crimes, district by district, under all classes for the last two years :—

No.	Offences.	Baroda.				Kadi.				Navsari.				Amreli.				Okhamandal.				Total.				
		Police.		Magis- trate.		Police.		Magis- trate.		Police.		Magis- trate.		Police.		Magis- trate.		Police.		Magis- trate.		Police.		Magis- trate.		
		1925-26.	1924-25.	1925-26.	1924-25.	1925-26.	1924-25.	1925-26.	1924-25.	1925-26.	1925-26.	1924-25.	1925-26.	1924-25.	1925-26.	1925-26.	1924-25.	1925-26.	1925-26.	1924-25.	1925-26.	1925-26.	1924-25.	1925-26.	1924-25.	1925-26.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
CLASS I-OFFENCES AGAINST PERSON.																										
1	Murder ...	30	21+1 D. F.	...	...	22	23	...	...	4	2	...	...	2	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	58	49+1 D. F.	...	...
2	Attempt at murder,	3	4	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	8	4	1	...
3	Culpable homicide.	6	9	...	...	9	8	...	...	12	8	...	...	3	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	30	27	...	...
4	Grievous hurt ...	53	53	4	8	77	53	28	15	21	13	2	1	8	10	1	3	3	2	...	...	162	131	35	27
	Rape ...	...	2	...	...	3	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	10	4	...	...
6	Kidnapping and Abduction ...	10	17	...	3	15	13	...	...	6	1	...	...	3	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	34	34	...	3
7	Drugging ...	1	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...
8	Causing death or grievous hurt by rash act ...	4	2	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	3	...	...
9	Miscellaneous ...	107	82	22	10	84	126	56	45	45	36	30	5	15	25	5	25	7	7	4	258	276	113	89
	Total ...	214	190+1 D. F.	26	21	217	226	84	60	89	60	32	6	38	43	7	28	12	9	...	4	570	528+1 D. F.	149	119	

No.	Offences.	Baroda.				Kadi.				Navsari.				Amreli.				Okhamandal.				Total.			
		Police.		Magis- trate.	Police.		Magis- trate.	Police.		Magis- trate.	Police.		Magis- trate.	Police.		Magis- trate.	Police.		Magis- trate.	Police.		Magis- trate.			
		1925-26.	1924-25.	1925-26.	1924-25.	1925-26.	1924-25.	1925-26.	1924-25.	1925-26.	1924-25.	1925-26.	1924-25.	1925-26.	1924-25.	1925-26.	1924-25.	1925-26.	1924-25.	1925-26.	1924-25.	1925-26.			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
CLASS III-MISCEL- LANEOUS.																									
20	Public tranquility.	4	12	3	...	41	23	6	12	1	2	1	...	3	3	...	1	1	...	...	...	50	40	10	13
21	Harbouring offen- ders ...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	...
22	Pretending to be a Government ser- vant ...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
23	Offences against coinage ...	3	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	1	...	...
24	Offences against currency notes, justice ...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...
25	Offences against marriage...	7	7	...	...	1	5	1	...	3	1	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	2	...	...	13	16	1	...
26	Other offences not specified above ...	12	11	12	10	16	23	21	17	...	...	...	...	4	5	6	4	1	2	...	...	33	40	39	31
27		173	187	...	1	141	279	...	3	34	14	67	55	13	22	...	...	1	1	...	...	362	503	67	59
Total...		201	224	15	11	199	330	28	32	38	17	68	55	22	31	6	5	3	5	...	...	463	606	117	103
Grand Total...		1,116	1,021	81	77	1279	1,477	467	560	288	238	123	87	194	237	47	34	64	37	6	7	2,941	3,020	724	815
		+2	+3				+1			+1				+2	+3							+5	+7		
		D.F.	D.F.				D.F.			D.F.				D.F.	D.F.							D.F.	D.F.		

Class I. Offences against person :—

Excluding cases reported to the Magistrates, there has been an increase of 42 during the year, the percentage of crimes under this class to the total number of crimes being 19·38 against 17·48 in the preceding year. Taking districts separately, there has been an increase of 24 in Baroda, 29 in Navsari and 3 in Okhamandal and a decrease of 9 in Kadi, and 5 in Amreli.

Class II. Offences against property :—

There has been an increase of 22, the percentage being 64·87 against 62·45 in the previous year. By districts, there has been a decrease of 58 in Kadi, 20 in Navsari, and 19 in Amreli and an increase of 94 in Baroda and 25 in Okhamandal.

Class III. Miscellaneous Offences:—

Under this class there has been a decrease of 143 on the whole, the percentage being 15·75 against 20·07 in the previous year. The figures analysed by districts show that there has been an increase of 21 in Navsari only and a decrease of 23 in Baroda, 131 in Kadi, 9 in Amreli and 2 in Okhamandal.

206. Besides 2941 cases reported to the Police during the year, 5 cases were taken up fresh from Arrears and disposal. the dormant file. This makes a total of 2,946 cases as against 3,027 in the previous year. 788 cases were pending with the Police at the commencement of the year. Hence the total number of cases for disposal with the Police during the year was 3,734. Of these 3,734 cases for disposal, 2 cases were time-barred, 393 against 388 of the preceding year were false cases, 640 or 16·60 per cent. were placed on the dormant file, while 32 or 0·85 per cent. were compounded before trial, thus leaving 835 or 22·35 per cent. for inquiry with the Police at the close of the year. 119 cases could not be detected or apprehended and the remaining 1,713 or 45·88 per cent. were committed for trial during the year.

207. Besides the 1,713 cases committed for trial to the Magistrates, there were 337 cases pending from the list of the previous year. The Disposal of cases after commitment. total number of cases with Magistrates for disposal during the year was, therefore, 2,050 against 2,076 in the preceding year. Of these 2,050 cases, 277 against 259 were either compounded or withdrawn in Courts, 918 ended in conviction, 511 in acquittal and 344 remained pending with Magistrates at the close of the year.

The percentage of cases convicted to cases tried (total cases with Magistrates minus those that remained pending at the close of the year) was 64.24 as against 59.42 in the previous year. Taking districts separately, the percentages of cases resulting in conviction were as follows :—

Baroda	...	...	70.19 as against 75.45
Kadi...	...	...	56.09 as against 59.80
Navsari	...	...	72.43 as against 51.02
Amreli	...	...	60.17 as against 55.03
Okhamandal	...	...	80.76 as against 100

208. Taking important offences separately, it appears that out of 72 true cases of murder and Percentage of conviction in important cases. culpable homicide, 67 were tried, of which 45 ended in conviction, the percentage of conviction being 67.16 as against 63.76 in the previous year. Out of 40 true cases of robbery, 23 were tried, of which 10 ended in conviction, the percentage being 43.45 against 53.33. The cases for burglary numbered 41, of these 129 were tried, 73 resulting in conviction, the percentage being 56.58 against 58.80. In connection with theft, out of 625 true cases, 447 were tried of which 272 ended in conviction the percentage being 60.85 against 61.79.

209. Property was stolen in 1,192 cases out of 2,941 cases reported to the Police during the year and in 609 cases it was recovered. The Property stolen and recovered. alleged value of property stolen was Rs. 1,32,344-11-11 and that of property recovered, was Rs. 28,660-3-4 as against Rs. 1,99,923 and Rs. 47,612 respectively in the preceding year. The percentage of recovery comes to 21.66 as against 23.82 in the previous year. The

percentage of cases in which the property was recovered, was 51.09 as against 54.81 per cent. in the preceding year. The figures show a marked decrease in value of stolen property.

210. The number of persons arrested in all the cases dealt with by the Police during the year was 5,001 as against 4,934 in the previous year. Of these 309 were disposed of before trial (i.e. 19 were released by the Police, 277 were released by the Magistrate, 12 died and one escaped before trial), leaving a balance of 4,692 persons of whom 3,427 were tried (1,476 were convicted and 1,951 were acquitted or discharged), 3 died and 2 escaped during trial. At the end of the year, 218 persons remained pending inquiry with the Police and 1042 pending trial with the Magistrates. The percentage of persons convicted to persons tried was 43.07 as against 47.05 in the previous year.

211. Magistrates' direct cases decreased from 815 to 724 during the year. Of these, 669 were declared to be true cases. The number and percentages of those that ended in conviction are given in the following comparative table :—

District.	1925-26			1924-25		
	Number of true cases.	Number of Cases ending in conviction.	Percentage of conviction.	Number of true cases.	Number of cases ending in conviction.	Percentage of conviction.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Baroda.	46	4	8.69	72	4	5.56
Kadi.	467	7	1.52	560	19	3.39
Navsari.	110	67	60.91	87	50	57.47
Amreli.	40	2	5.00	62	3	4.83
Okhamandal.	6	...	...	6	...	...
Total.	669	80	11.96	787	76	9.65

212. The strength of the Criminal Investigation Department was increased during the year by 1 Fouzdar, 1 Jamadar and 2 Havaldars. Amongst the important cases handled by the department were those of forgery, swindling, and illegal sale of tickets of lotteries. During the year, the department completed inquiry in the Naosari Indian Marriage Society case and committed it for trial and arranged for the extradition through the Residency of three accused in the Malataj Ginning Factory Arson case. Help was rendered to the local police by the C. I. D. in tracing the accused persons in three cases and to the foreign police in an important case of theft at Ahmedabad and in tracing an absconding convict from the Barwani Jail.

213. The total number of Finger Print Slips on record at the Finger Print Bureau at the beginning of the year was 25,675. 1,030 slips were received during the year for records, thus making a total of 26,705. 43 slips of reconvicted habituals were deducted and hence the actual number of slips on record at the end of the year was 26,662. The Bureau received 2,442 slips for trace during the year as against 2,044. Of the total slips received for trace, 1,309 slips were received from State Police Officials and 1,133 slips from foreign officers as against 1452 and 592 respectively in the previous year. Of these, 322 slips were traced as against 304 in the preceding year, giving a percentage of 13.29 as against 14.87 in the preceding year. The Bureau sent 1,631 slips to other Bureau for trace, as against 1,812 in the previous year, and 143 to Foreign Bureau for record against 202 in the preceding year.

214. In the Baroda district the Police Thana at Varnâna in Baroda Taluka was newly built, and the Sadhi Thana in Padra Taluka and the Police line at Sojitra were under construction. In the Kadi district new buildings for Chokies at Vasai, Dharisna and Sariyad under Vijapur, Dehgam and Patan Talukas

respectively were completed during the year, while that at Chandrasan in Kadi Taluka was under construction. In the Navsari District the works of Umbhel Thana under Kamrej and Salher Thana under Songhad as well as the repairs to the Palsana Bazar gate and the old Police lines at Mahuva were completed, while the works of constructing the Bazar gate at Kathor and of remodelling the Police lines at Songhad were in progress. In the Amreli district the Wankia and Mota Ankadia Thanas as well as the Ingorla Choki building were completed, while Chokies at Sakhpur and Dahithara were under construction. No new buildings were constructed or repairs carried out in Okhamandal.

215. The following are some of the important features of the year's working :—

Important events.

- (1) A scheme for providing Khakhi dress in lieu of the present blue one to the Police Force was sanctioned by Government and orders were passed to arrange for the provision of this dress to the Force in the Kadi and Baroda Districts and to the Water Police in Amreli and Okhamandal only for the present.
- (2) The speed of Motor Cars and Vehicles in Baroda Raj was fixed at 15 miles per hour instead of 20 miles as originally sanctioned.
- (3) 200 rifles of '303 pattern were purchased from the British Arsenal at Allahabad.
- (4) Land underneath the Railway Culverts on the B. B. & C. I. Railway situated within Baroda limits was decided to belong to the Baroda State and the registration of offences will henceforth be regulated accordingly.
- (5) The refusal of the Rajpipla State to allow the institution of a search for the Muddamal in their territory, without a search warrant from their Local Magistrate has been ordered to be retaliated with a similar treatment in respect of a search for Muddamal in Baroda State territory.

216. The total expenditure amounted to Rs. 13,01,464-14-1 as against Rs. 13,36,315-12-7 in the Expenditure. previous year showing a decrease of Rs. 34,850-14-6.

The following table shows the details of expenditure:—

No.	Heads of charges.	Budget allotment.	Expenditure during the year 1925-26.	Expenditure during the year 1924-25.	Difference.
		Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
1	Pay and Allowance.	13,26,993- 0-0	11,63,059- 4-1	12,01,004- 6- 1	—32,945- 1-11
2	Arms and accoutrements.	56,679- 3-0	56,002- 8-7	57,512-11-11	—1,510- 3- 4
3	Contingencies.	75,986- 7-8	74,489-13-7	74,914- 8- 4	—424-10- 9
4	Dead stock.	4,254- 2-9	2,313- 3-9	2,884- 2- 3	—570-14- 6
5	Temporary.	600- 0-0	600- 0-0	—	+600- 0- 0
	Total,	14,64,512-13-5	13,01,464-14-1	13,36,315-12- 7	—34,850-14- 6

E. Peace and Order

217. No rise in the general state of crime during the year was particularly noticeable.

General State of
crime in the districts.

In the Baroda district, owing to the execution of some prominent dacoits, the situation showed an appreciable calmness. In the City of Baroda Abhesing Parbat, a notorious dacoit of Vadaj under Dabhoi Taluka, who was kept under Police custody at the Raopura Police Station, under Police supervision, pending transfer to some other district, created a big sensation. Early in the morning of 27th July 1926, he asked to be taken out to the closet. He was taken out of the gaol escorted by two policemen on duty. On stepping out of the building, he snatched the Dharia from the hands of one of the Policemen and attacked them. Then he succeeded

in wounding three and killing one Policeman. Soon after, he broke open the ammunition box and took from it the arms and ammunition he wanted to have. One Chhotalal Maneklal who advanced from the crowds to the Police Station was fired upon by Abhesing and died afterwards at the Hospital. The situation was serious as at any time Abhesing might shoot at the crowd. The Police, therefore, decided to shoot him and accordingly Abhesing was shot dead by a member of the force.

218. There were in all 88 security cases made by the Police which may be classified as Security cases. under :--

District.	No. of security cases by the Police.	No. of cases in which securities were taken.	No. of cases in which securities were refused to be taken.	No. of pending cases.
Baroda ...	16	12	3	1
Kadi ...	60	26	10	24
Naosari ...	12	12	...	...
Amreli ...	...	...	...	...
Okhamandal.	...	...	...	...
Total...	88	50	13	25

219. The Report of the Kaliparaj Committee was submitted to H. H. the Maharaja Saheb, who was pleased to pass orders on certain issues raised therein, as a result of which the Kali Paraj Land Tenure Act was repealed. The remaining points contained in the Report, have also now been disposed of. The orders passed by the Government were communicated by the Huzur Central Office to the Departments concerned, for taking necessary action. The work of publishing the report of the Committee together with the orders passed thereon was entrusted to this office. The report is being printed at the Government Press.

220. The practice of submitting monthly reports to the Huzur Central Office for the political and religious movements in the State, was continued during the year under report. There was no political movement of importance in the State, that needs special notice except that pertaining to the Municipal Taxation in the Baroda City.

221. Co-operation between the Bandobasti Magistrates and the Police, facilitated the maintenance of peace and order.

Peace and order in the State.

F. Press Report

222. The Press Report Branch remained under the direction and control of the Sar Suba.

Control.

223. The number of Printing Presses at the beginning of the year was 51; 2 new Presses were opened, and 1 was closed. Thus at the end of the year there were 52 Presses actually working.

The number of Printing Presses.

224. The total literary output of the Press was 10 Weeklies, 42 Periodicals, and 199 Books including Pamphlets, as against 10 Weeklies, 37 Periodicals, and 459 Books for the preceding year.

Output of the Press.

225. The number of weekly reports issued in respect of Journals was 53. Six monthly extracts of the Register kept here for the reports of books according to the New Press Act, were submitted. The system of Press Cuttings was continued, and the departments were kept informed of comments, criticisms, and suggestions of the Press relating to them. The number of such cuttings during the year was 275. The corresponding figures for the previous year were 61 and 198 respectively.

Number of Reports.

226. Altogether 360 topics were reported from the local Press, which may be divided as follows:-

Topics reported.

Political	145	Railway	8	Customs	2
Administrative	29	Panchayat	19	Public Works	2
Legislative	17	Municipal	19	Agricultural	3
Revenue	11	Religious	6	Police-Bando- bast.	3
Abkari	6	Financial	3	Personal	6
Educational	37	Medical	7	Miscellaneous	31
Commercial	4	Famine	2		

Principal Foreign News-papers were also scrutinized, and 43 topics mostly relating to the State Administration, were reported. The number of topics reported from the local as well as Foreign Press during the last year, was 457 and 42 respectively.

227. The number of Periodicals published during the year was 42, which may be classified as follows:--

Periodicals—their
nature and contents.

General Literature.	1	Physical Culture.	3	Communal	12
Education.	3	Philosophy.	1	Miscellaneous	15
Religion.	4	Law.	3		

The strength of the communal Magazines indicates a general awakening of the communal consciousness among the people, and a wide-spread desire for education and social reform. Some of the periodicals are of a fairly high order, and command a large circulation.

228. There were 199 books and pamphlets reported during the year, which may be divided as follows:--

Books their number
and quality.

According to Language.

English	8	Hindi	9	Hindi-Urdu	1
Gujarati	150	Eng.-Marathi	4	Urdu-Gujarati	1
Sanskrit	4	Sans.-Guj	7	Hindi-Guj-Sans	1
Marathi	7	Hindi-Guj	6	Hindi-Guj— Marathi.	1

According to subjects.

Religion ...	...18	Biography ...	...11	Metaphysics ...	3
Literature ...	2	Novel ...	...26	Astrology ...	1
History ...	...6	Drama ...	...5	Physiography ...	1
Education ...	...32	Geography ...	2	Travel and	
Ethics ...	...3	Physical Culture...	7	Description ...	1
Poetry ...	...43	Science ...	...13	Miscellaneous ...	25

The general quality of the books, on the whole, continued to be poor. Among the few good books published, were those that appeared under the auspices of the Education department (Translation Branch).

229. The general tone of the local Press was, on the whole, loyal both to the Baroda as well as the British Government, though it is evident that the influence on the local journalism of the Indian Nationalist Press is becoming more marked day by day.

230. No book was proscribed during the year under report. The Editor and Publisher of the *Nava Gujarat* (weekly) published some articles on Deccani-Gujarati Partics, and the Judicial Administration of the State, which were likely to create embittered feelings among the people, whereupon the District Magistrate warned him to refrain from writing such

articles in future. The printer and publisher of the *Hind Vijaya* for some time neither sent the issues of the paper to this office in time nor gave any satisfactory explanation in that connection. The District Magistrate was, therefore, asked to take steps against him (the printer) under the Press Act.

231. The Press Report-Bandobasti Branch remained under the supervision of the Naib Panchayat Adhikari, till 18th December 1925, but as the period fixed for the travelling of the Naib Panchayat Adhikari was raised, the work of this branch was transferred to the Superintendent, Appeal branch, who continued to supervise this branch till 11th April 1926. In the meantime, the Press Report and Bandobasti work having increased, an independent post of Superintendent for the Press Report Branch was created under orders from H. H. the Maharaja Saheb, and Mr. N. R. Tavade, the then Vijapur Mahal Vahiwardar, was appointed on this post, from the 12th April 1926. Soon after, the question of starting a Publicity and Intelligence Bureau in the State was settled and in accordance with the Government Resolution No. 322/122, dated 19-5-26. Mr. T. M. Desai of the Education Department was appointed Superintendent of this branch from the 8th June 1926. He also works as Publicity and Intelligence Officer. He continued to be in charge of this branch till the end of the year.

G. Extradition

232. His Highness' Government made Extradition demands (without taking into account the cases of withdrawals) in 157 cases as against 143 cases last year and received similar demands from the British Districts and Indian States in 110 cases as against 101 cases of the last year.

233. The following table will show the comparative statement of demands both by Baroda and from Baroda;—

Number of demands by and from Baroda,	
--	--

Demands by Baroda.

Number of demands made.		Number of demands withdrawn	
	Cases.	Persons.	
British Districts ...	119	215	4
Indian States ...	38	82	4
Total ...	157	297	8

Demands from Baroda.

Number of demands made.		Number of demands withdrawn.	
	Cases.	Persons.	
British Districts ...	71	112	6
Indian States ...	39	107	5
Total...	110	219	11

234. 279 persons were surrendered to Baroda in 156 cases, while Baroda surrendered 175 persons in 100 cases as shown below :—

Surrender by and to Baroda.

Surrenders to Baroda.

	Number of surrenders on demands made during the current year.		Number of surrenders on demands made during the previous year.		Total number of surrenders during the year.	
	Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.
British Districts ...	102	182	14	24	116	206
Indian States ...	29	56	11	17	40	73
Total...	131	238	25	41	156	279

Surrenders by Baroda.

	Number of surrenders on demands made during the current year.		Number of surrenders on demands made during the previous year.		Total number of surrenders during the year.	
	Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons	Cases.	Persons.
British Districts ...	61	100	4	6	65	106
Indian States ...	27	50	8	19	35	69
Total ...	88	150	12	25	100	175

Note:—(1) Out of 279 persons in 156 cases surrendered to Baroda during the year and 42 persons in 29 cases that had remained to be tried at the end of the last year, 35 persons were discharged in 24 cases, 80 persons acquitted in 42 cases, 80 persons sentenced in 61 cases, 15 persons dealt with otherwise in 5 cases and 111 persons remained to be tried in 53 cases.

(2) Two deserters in two separate cases were handed over to the foreign Military authorities and the other to the Alwar State Military authority.

235. A material change in the existing procedure of the extradition of fugitive criminals from and to the Amreli and Okhamandal districts was introduced as a tentative measure during the year, in as much as the Suba of Amreli and the Commissioner of Okhamandal are now regarded as Extradition Officers with regard to convention as well as non-convention offences both in dealing with the Kathiawar States and with British India and other States, the intervention of the State Extradition Officer being excluded for some time by way of an experiment.

H. Prisons

236. The number of jails and lockups continued to be the same, viz. 1 Central Jail, 4 District Jails and 38 lockups.

Number of jails and lockups.

237. The total number of admission in all the jails and lockups was 4,144 (3,868 males and 276 females) as against 3,697 (3,535 males and 162 females) in the preceding year. Of these, 1,379 (1,291 males and 88 women) against 1,138 (1,103 males and 35 women) were sentenced during the year. The daily average number of prisoners in all jails and lockups, however, was 1,055 (1,030 males and 25 females) as against 990 (971 males and 19 females) in the previous year. Of the 1,379 new convicts admitted during the year, 88.54 percent were Hindus, 9.94 percent Mahomedans and 1.52 percent were of other religions as against 90.12, 9.44 and .44 percent respectively in the preceding year.

238. As usual, a very large number of the jail population belonged to the age group 15-40 and belonged to the labourers, cultivators, and domestic servant class, their number being as great as 1,161 against 863 in the previous year. Of the total jail population 17.18 per cent against 17.66 in the previous year could lay claim to literacy. The offences with which a majority of the prisoners were charged were theft, burglary and hurt, the sentences in a majority of cases being six months and under.

The jail population.

239. The total expenditure during the year, excluding that of Police guards for lockups, amounted to Rs. 1,97,842 as against Rs. 1,56,401 in the previous year showing an increase of Rs. 41,441 which is due to a large expenditure under the head of buildings and repairs. The installation of electric light, stone flooring in the sleeping wards and verandahs, Manglore tile roofing to Female Ward, Boring in the Jail well, erection of a store room

Expenditure.

and two sentinal posts, and the conversion of two factory verandahs into large rooms have mostly contributed to the above increase in expenditure.

240. The total earnings of convict labour and all other sources of income from the Central jail
 Earnings. amounted to Rs. 26,152-12-8 as against Rs.33,483-6-7 in the previous year, showing a decrease of Rs. 7,330-8-11. The figures for gross income have shown a great decrease during the year under report, mainly due to the work of manufacturing police uniform articles in jail factory having been discontinued on account of the introduction of Khakhi uniform for the force. The dullness of the market also is responsible for lessening the attraction of the Jail products.

The amount of gross income from the district jails was Rs. 2,008-15-11 against Rs. 2,215-5-2 in the previous year, bringing the total gross income during the year for all jails in the State to Rs. 28,161-13-7 as against Rs. 35,698-11-9 in the preceding year.

241. The Thana System of sending selected prisoners of approved behaviour to the Model
 Thana System. Farm and allowing them freedom was continued and was found to have worked smoothly and satisfactorily.

242. During the year arrangements were made with the Government of Bombay for sending
 Improvements made. leper convicts from Baroda Jails to the isolation wards for lepers in the Yaroda Central Prison on payment of necessary charges.

I. Registration

243. The first Registration Act was prepared in 1869, but as this did not fully carry out the object
 The Registration Act. of Registration, a new Act was passed in 1885. This was revised subsequently in 1902. By this Act, all documents creating a charge on immovable property have to be registered.

The department was under the Sar Suba, who was assisted by a Personal Assistant. The Suba of Naosari and Amreli districts and the Personal Naib Subas in the Baroda and Kadi districts worked as ex-officio Registrars for their districts. The number of Sub-Registrars was 44, the same as in the previous year.

244. The following statement gives the number of documents received for registration, their aggregate value and the gross receipts and expenditure of the department for the two years:—

Year.	No. of Documents.	Aggregate value. Rs.	Gross receipts Rs.	Expenditure Rs.
1924-25	43,158	2,91,30,548	2,01,545	54,013
1925-26	42,468	2,74,70,648	1,93,060	55,171

245. From the above statement, it will be seen that figures except those of expenditure show a decrease. It was mainly due to the fact that the number of documents in the Baroda and Kadi districts decreased by 745 and 893, on account of scantier rainfall and the consequent poor harvest of cotton. Navsari, Amreli and Okhamandal districts, however show an increase of 709, 233 and 6 respectively. It seems the increase in the Navsari district was due to the removal of the restriction on the land transfers in the Kaliparaj areas. The aggregate value of registered documents has decreased as documents of the value of Rs. 1,000 and over have decreased by 763. Decrease in the aggregate value obviously accounts for the decrease of Rs. 8,485 in the gross receipts, because the registration fees depend in most cases upon the value of the land which forms the subject of transactions.

246. The following statement will show the classification of the documents received for registration:—

Documents classified.

Nature of instruments.	1924-25.	1925-26.
1	2	3
<i>Immovable property:—</i>		
(1) Compulsor.		
Gifts	415	452
Sales	20,027	17,365
Mortgages with possession	16,491	17,987
Mortgages without possession	2,140	2,608
Instruments of partition	594	592
Leases above 3 years	1,999	984
Other documents	1,347	1,342
Total ...	42,023	41,330
(2) Optional.		
Leases upto 3 years	222	225
Wills and authorities to adopt ...	449	483
Total of (1) & (2) ...	42,685	42,038
<i>Moveable property:—</i>		
(1) Compulsory.		
Money bonds above Rs. 1,000 ...	33	43
(2) Optional.		
Money bonds upto Rs. 1,000... ..	56	64
Instruments of pledges with possession	12	13
Instruments of pledges without possession	24	21
Divorce	37	37
Other documents	311	252
Total ...	449	387
Total of (1) & (2) ...	473	430
Grand Total ...	43,158	42,468

247. The Personal Assistant inspected 32 Sub-Registry Offices and paid surprise visits to 9 Inspection. during the year as against 22 and 11 respectively during the previous year.

248. The special concession given to the Agricultural Banks in the State of having their documents registered without the payment of any kind of fees continued to be extended also to the co-operative societies. Documents relating to Agricultural Banks & Co-operative Societies. Documents of the co-operative societies for the consolidation of the scattered Agricultural Holdings also continued to be exempted from the fees. 409 documents relating to such banks and societies were registered during the year as against 380 in the preceding year, and the value of the remissions enjoyed by them amounted to Rs. 2,002-4-0 as against 1,632-7-0 for the preceding year.

249. Marriages under the local Civil Marriages Act IX of Samvat 1964 are required to be registered by the Sub-Registrars. During the year, 2 marriages were registered in the whole State. The total number of such marriages registered since the passing of the said Act up till now is 14.

J. Courts of Wards

250. Under the Law regarding wards, the Sar Suba is authorised to assume control over the estates of minors and of those who are physically or mentally unable to manage for themselves, when the estates are valued at Rs. 1,500 or more. A sum of 3 p.c. on the income is charged for the cost of supervision, and the estates are managed and their general well being is looked after by the Government as long as the disability lasts. The Sar Suba exercises general supervision only and the Subas are actually the guardians of wards in their districts. The number of such wards during the year was 66 against 65 in the preceding year.

251. The value of the properties managed amounted to Rs 2,42,1394-0-1 and their income to Rs. 2,05,448-3-1.
 Properties of the wards and their income.

252. Out of the total savings of Rs. 5,10,857-9-3, Rs. 3,14,604-10-0 were deposited in the Baroda Bank, Rs. 12,478-9-6 in the Postal Savings Bank, Rs. 5,580-0-0 in Shares and Rs. 1,30,568-4-0 in Bonds and Rs. 47,626-1-7 were on hand.
 Savings and investments.

253. Arrangements for the education and health of the wards were carefully made.
 Education of the Wards.

254. Steps were taken to reduce the debt of the wards and the properties were carefully looked after.
 Management of the properties.

K. Religious and Charitable Institutions

255. Temples and other charitable or religious institutions in the State are either maintained directly by the Government, or are public institutions under private management receiving aid from the State in the form of Barkhali or alienated lands, Inami villages, or cash, or are public institutions receiving no aid from the State in any form. Of these, the Government is directly concerned with the first two.
 Charitable or religious Institutions.

256. The number of institutions under direct Government management was 46. Two of these, viz. Kedareshwar Khichadi and Gyarmi Karkhanas, were charitable institutions for the maintenance of the Hindu and
 Institutions under Government management and their properties.

Mahomedan destitutes respectively, in the City of Baroda. They were under the direct management of the Head Office while the rest were managed by the local officers. The total expenditure of these institutions was Rs. 1,10,116-14-8 as against

Rs. 81,527-0-7 for the previous year. The moveable and immoveable property belonging to the Institutions was Rs. 18,82,052-4-8 as against Rs. 19,84,897-5-3 in the previous year.

257. The details of the two funds. (1) Reserve Fund and (2) General Fund, standing in the name of the Sar Suba, (Devasthan Adhikari)

The two funds. are shown in the following table:—

Name of the Fund.	Amount in hand in the beginning of the year.	Contributions added during the year.	Total.	Expenditure.	Balance at the close of the year.
1	2	3	4	5	6
General Fund ...	3,75,795	1,00,140-12-4	4,75,935-12-4	64,302-12-7	4,11,633-15-9
Reserve Fund ...	4,125	4,891-11-3	9,016-11-5	6,979-9-8	2,037-1-9
Total ...	3,79,920	1,05,032-7-9	4,84,952-7-9	71,282-6-3	4,13,697-1-6

258. Extraordinary expenses of all the institutions over and above the budget grants, chiefly those of substantial repairs to their buildings, are met out of the Reserve Fund to which all contribute rateably, while the General Fund, which is created out of the net savings of the institutions is intended for religious and charitable objects of public utility.

Out of this General Fund, Rs. 12,000 are spent every year on the maintenance of certain dispensaries in the Kadi District, Rs. 3,000 are spent every year on the maintenance of the Pattan Ayurvedic Pathshala, and Rs. 2,450 and Rs. 300 are contributed towards the expenses of the Orphanage at Amreli and the Maharani Chimanabai Maternity Ward at Baroda respectively. The Amreli Pathshala receives Rs. 571-14-0.

The Baroda Rajkiya Pathshala receives, Rs. 6,776. Rs. 10 per month, i.e. 120, are contributed annually towards the pay of the Upadeshak of Yavteshwar Mahadev at Kadi for doing the additional work of preaching to the depressed classes in the area. From this year, Rs. 2,000 annually are contributed towards the Pilajirao Poor House.

The balance of the General Fund stood at Rs. 4,11,632-15-9 at the end of the year, of which Rs. 1,58,500 were invested in Government of India War Bonds, Rs. 30 000 in Ahmedabad Prantij Railway Shares, and Rs. 26,112-3-3 were advanced as loan. The rest of the balance Rs. 1,97,020-12-6 deposited in the Bank of Baroda, Rs. 1,50,000 are kept as fixed deposit and the remaining Rs. 47,020-12-6 in the current account.

The Repair Fund was uptil now held separately for the benefit of each institution, but by order of the Council No. 20/3 dated 20-8-23, it ceases to have a separate existence and it merges into the General Fund.

259. Religious and Charitable Institutions managed by private individuals under the general supervision of the State during the year under report numbered 4,329 enjoying an aggregate approximate grant of Rs. 1,83,995-5-1 in the form of Inami villages and cash allowances. Of these, those having an annual income of Rs. 200 and above are required by the Charitable Endowment Act to get their Budgets sanctioned by Government every three years. The managers of 113 such institutions have tendered their budgets.

260. All the five itinerant religious preachers at Amreli, Becharaji, Sidhpur, Kadi, Chandod were working during the year.

261. The ancient Math of Shree Sharada Pith, the Chief Seat of Jagat Guru Shri Shankaracharya at Dwarka, was completed during the year under report at a cost of Rs. 31,250-11-11.

262. The post of the Brahmachari for the Shankhnarayan temple has been filled up during the year under report and the usual Nazarana of Rs. 1,000 was recovered from the Brahmachari. The post of the Brahmachari for Shri Satyabhamaji temple is still vacant. Arrangements are being made to fill up this post by a competent Brahmachari.

Shri Shankaracharya Shantanandji died at Dwarka on 16th February 1926. His successor is still to be selected and installed by His Highness' Government.

263. The post of Dharmadhyaksha was revived under Huzur Order No. 17/1 dated 26-1-1926 and Vedashastra Sampanna Amritram Shastri was appointed to the post. The object of creating this post is to inspect Devasthan, Pirasthan and other religious institutions and see their working and also to give discourses on religion. He visited in all 299 institutions.

264. One institution was visited by the Survey and Settlement Commissioner, 15 by the Barkhali Assistant, and 26 by the Survey and Settlement Superintendent during the year.

CHAPTER III.

FINANCE

265. The department of Accounts is concerned with audit, accounts and finance. As an Audit department, it examines all vouchers of expenditure. If they appear on examination to be objectionable in any way, they are not passed but are held under objection until an explanation is received. On receipt of the explanation, the vouchers are either passed or rejected.

Functions of the
Department.

As an Accounts department, it tabulates the receipts and expenditure of the whole State under their respective heads and sub-heads, and compiles therefrom monthly and yearly statements of accounts.

As a Finance department, it prepares the budget statement of the estimated receipts and expenditure for the succeeding year, and submits it for the orders of His Highness at least three months before the year commences. It watches the revenues and informs Government of the chief causes of fluctuations, if any. It has to suggest means for the curtailment of expenditure, and to advise Government on all questions directly or indirectly affecting the finances.

266. The department is divided into ten branches in accordance with its threefold functions of Audit, Accounts and Finance.

Divisions and Functions of the Department.

267. The Main Branch is the central controlling office of the department, under the direct supervision of the Accountant General aided by his Assistant. All financial questions are disposed of

Main Branch.

in this branch. The accounts of tribute, Ghasdana and Jamabandi due to His Highness' Government from the several tributaries are also compiled in this Branch.

268. One of the Assistants to the Accountant General, besides supervising the work of the Main branch has directly under him (1) the Compilation branch which prepares the final accounts of the State, (2) the Civil Audit branch, which scrutinises all vouchers excepting those relating to the Government offices in the capital and those of certain other specified departments like the Railways, the Public Works and the Military, (3) the Stamp branch dealing with the storage and supply of stamps, and (4) the Local Boards Audit Branch which audits the accounts of the Local Boards, Municipalities and the Vishishta Panchayats in the State.

269. Controlled by a separate Assistant Accountant General, the Pre-Audit Branch, before authorising payments, examines the vouchers of all the offices in the city. The vouchers relating to the Military department received from the main Army Office at Baroda and from the Mahals and other treasuries are also examined in this office. The total transactions covered by this inspection including adjustments during the year stood at Rs. 9,70,62,365 on both sides of the accounts.

270. The Inspection branch inspects the accounts of all the departments except the Military, the Public Works and the Railway, by actually taking stock of treasure and scrutinizing local accounts. The accounts of the estates of Wards under Government management also are inspected by this branch.

271. The Public Works Audit branch exercises audit control over the accounts of the Public Works department and other departments of the State, so far as the expenditure charges under the head "Buildings" in the accounts of the Raj are concerned. It has also the audit control over the accounts of all the Local Boards.

272. The Railway Audit Office audits and maintains accounts of the Railway department. Railway Audit Office. During the year under report, Mr. M. V. Naidu continued as Chief Auditor.

273. With a view that Government servants should receive an appreciable sum at the time of retirement from service, which added to their pension, may be of use to them, a scheme for Life Insurance on the analogy of the scheme adopted by the Mysore Government was introduced during the year. For this purpose, an officer of the department was deputed to Bangalore to see the working of the scheme. The work has been finally entrusted to this department and a committee has been appointed, controlled by the Accountant General, as President.

274. The scheme is purely of an insurance nature. 10 % of the pay of the insured is deducted every month for which a Policy is assured to the insured which entitles him to receive the insured amount at the age of 56 or earlier at death. The amount of insurance varies according to the age of the insured, and the monthly premium. As the private Insurance Companies are offering a variety of insurance schemes, His Highness' Government have introduced four kinds of insurance schemes for Government servants of the Civil department (including the Police), and four other kinds for men of the Military department. Each servant who entered service after 1st August 1925 has to get himself insured under the scheme. For those who entered the State service before 1st August 1925, insurance is optional.

275. During the year under report, 682 applications were received, out of which 636 applications were accepted and 446 Policies were issued. In this connection, a new fund called the Insurance Fund has been created to which the amounts of premia of the Policies insured are credited from time to time. The total

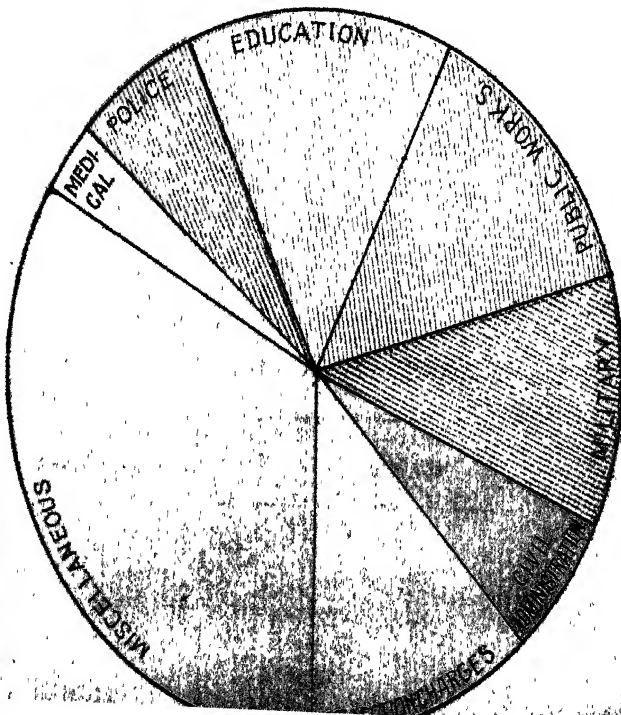
amount thus credited to the fund by the end of the year was Rs. 5,278-1-4. The expenses towards medical examinations and establishment charges are defrayed from this fund and the balance has to be invested so as to earn interest. As a tentative measure for two years, His Highness' Government have been pleased to allow interest at 4% p.a. on the monthly balance of this fund, lying in Government treasuries.

276. In the Civil departments, 165 new pensions were sanctioned and 125 ceased through death. At the close of the year, the total number of Civil pensioners was 1,751, drawing an aggregate annual pension of Rs. 3,88,389. Pensions and Gratuities. Gratuities amounting to Rs. 3,489 were awarded to 27 persons. In the Military department, 69 new pensions were sanctioned and 27 ceased through death. The total number of Military pensioners at the end of the year was 1,028. The annual pension drawn by them amounted to Rs. 1,03,013. Gratuities amounting to Rs. 17,920 were awarded to 55 persons.

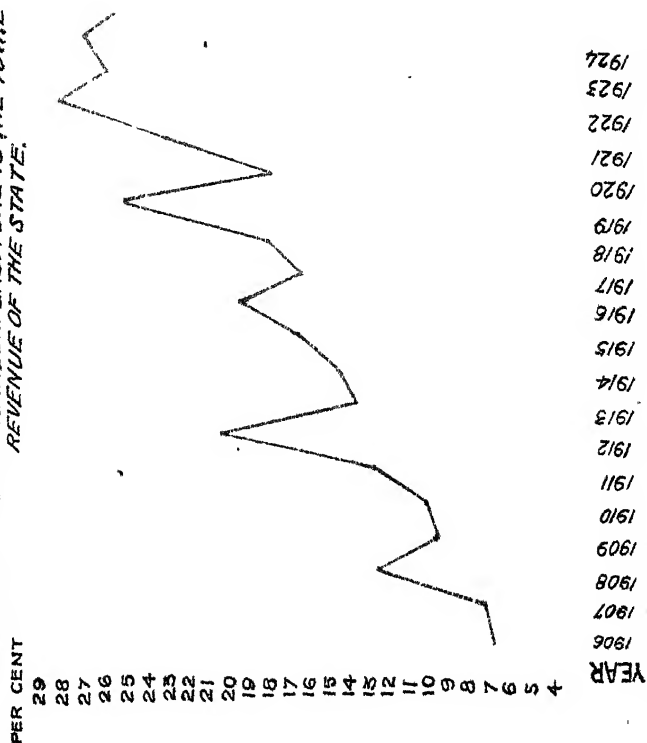
277. The total receipts and disbursements during the year as compared with those of the previous year are given in the following statement. Receipts and disbursements.

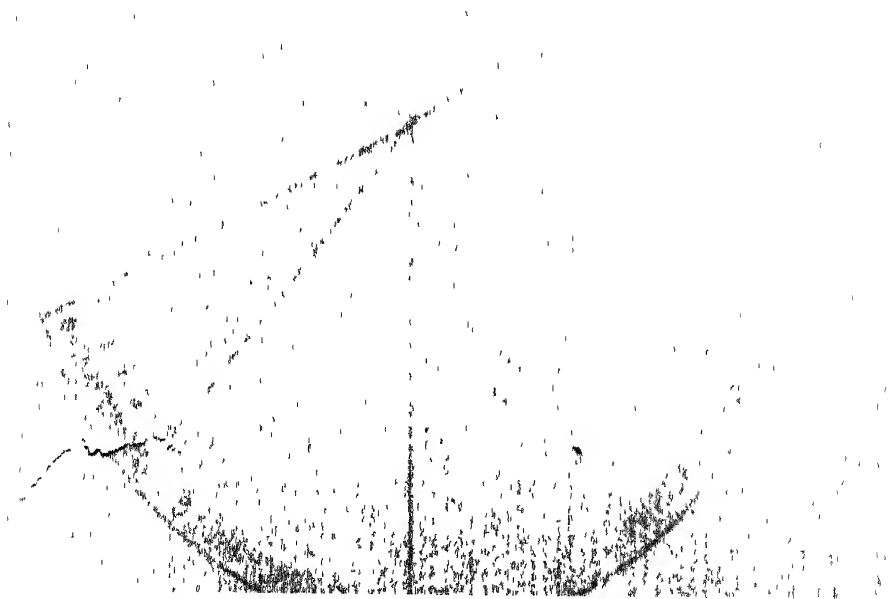
BARODA STATE EDUCATIONAL EXPENDITURE

*Diagram showing the proportion of Expenditure
in various heads:*



*DIAGRAM SHOWING THE FLUCTUATIONS IN THE
PROPORTION OF EDUCATIONAL EXPENDITURE TO THE TOTAL
REVENUE OF THE STATE.*





Receipts

No.	Head.	1924-25.	1925-26.	Increase.	Decrease.
1	2	3	4	5	6
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1	Land Revenue ...	1,18,33,271	1,13,27,143	...	5,06,128
2	Miscellaneous Taxes,	5,37,394	5,75,183	37,789	...
3	Forests ...	5,51,293	6,46,371	95,078	...
4	Abkari ...	35,35,960	35,97,795	61,835	...
5	Customs ...	3,32,820	3,79,156	46,336	...
6	Stamps ...	12,10,938	11,28,948	...	81,990
7	Registration...	2,00,622	1,92,012	...	8,610
8	Tribute and Fixed Jamabandi ...	6,94,168	6,16,852	...	77,316
9	Tribute ...	12,216	11,833	...	383
10	Interest ...	12,54,938	15,13,463	2,58,525	...
11	Village Board Reve- nue ...	1,57,402	1,24,462	...	32,940
12	Vishishta Panchayats	23,863	22,349	...	1,514
13	Opium ...	6,47,053	6,39,932	...	7,121
14	Railways ...	18,46,778	14,11,090	...	4,35,688
15	Electric ...	81,820	1,21,585	39,765	...
16	Irrigation ...	37,548	37,435	...	113
17	Judicial fees & fines.	1,19,031	1,18,714	...	317
18	Education ...	2,66,242	2,73,274	7,032	...
19	Jail ...	44,897	18,830	...	26,067
20	Public Works ...	2,81,776	2,35,848	...	45,928
21	Medical ...	1,11,108	69,774	...	41,334
22	Miscellaneous ...	6,94,756	6,44,737	...	50,019
	Total ...	2,44,75,894	2,37,06,786	5,46,360	13,15,468
	Net Decrease ...	...		7,69,108.	

Disbursements

No.	Head.	1924-25.	1925-26.	Increase.	Decrease.
1	2	3	4	5	6
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1	Land Revenue ...	20,93,865	22,35,283	1,41,418	...
2	Other Establishments	1,89,080	2,05,560	16,480	...
3	Forest ...	1,21,432	1,36,336	14,904	...
4	Stamps ...	84,971	75,016	...	9,955
5	Registration ...	53,796	55,089	1,293	...
6	Tribute ...	59	...	...	59
7	Interest ...	24,308	3,91,568	3,67,260	...
8	Opium ...	42,778	10,852	...	31,916
9	Palace ...	20,26,625	20,31,484	4,859	...
10	Huzur Rajkarbhar ...	7,78,283	8,17,851	39,468	...
11	Judicial ...	4,44,110	4,65,180	21,070	...
12	Police ...	14,09,372	13,88,099	...	21,273
13	Jail ...	1,09,371	1,04,651	...	4,720
14	Education ...	30,56,866	31,35,215	78,349	...
15	Medical ...	6,41,196	6,86,730	45,534	...
16	Local Boards and Panchayats ...	4,20,349	4,00,617	...	19,732
17	Public Works ...	35,20,083	30,61,446	...	4,58,637
18	Irrigation ...	35,320	28,774	...	6,546
19	Army ...	24,07,715	24,89,570	81,855	...
20	Devasthan ...	2,23,006	2,48,689	25,683	...
21	Asamdar ...	4,96,041	4,71,699	...	24,342
22	Pension ...	3,98,543	4,01,495	2,952	...
23	Extraordinary ...	61,720	39,601	...	22,119
24	Sanitation ...	55,217	55,404	187	...
25	Agriculture ...	1,32,785	83,837	...	48,948
26	Commerce and Industry ...	1,49,268	2,93,710	1,44,442	...
27	Miscellaneous ...	4,54,916	4,59,479	4,563	...
	Total...	1,94,31,175	1,97,73,245	9,90,317	6,48,247
	Net increase ...	...	...	3,42,070	

278. The Main Heads which show appreciable increase under receipts are :—

Increase under
receipts.

Taxes:—Rs. 37,789. Due to greater realization of income-tax.

Forests:—Rs. 95,078. Due to income of timber wood.

Customs:—Rs. 46,336. Due to greater realization of customs duty received mainly on account of the Dwarka Cement Company, Ltd.

Interest:—Rs. 2,58,525. Due to interest received in advance in converting 6% Income-tax Free Bonds, into 5% Tax-Free loan 1945-55.

Electric:—Rs. 39,765. Due to greater number of consumers.

279. The heads which show an appreciable decrease under receipts are :—

Decrease under
receipts.

Land Revenue:—Rs. 5,06,128. Due to less realization of Land Revenue.

Stamps:—Rs. 81,990. Due to less sale of documentary papers.

Tribute and Fixed Jamabandi:—Rs. 77,316. Due to less tribute received through the British Government.

Railways:—Rs. 4,35,688. Due to less traffic.

Jail:—Rs. 26,067. Due to less income under the head—Garden and Factory labour.

Public Works:—Rs. 45,928. Due to less refund of the balance of the amounts spent towards Famine Relief Works.

Medical:—Rs. 41,334. Due to less income of the department.

Miscellaneous:—Rs. 50,019. Owing to non-receipt of the miscellaneous railway income.

280. The heads which show an appreciable increase under disbursements are:—

Increase under
disbursements.

Land Revenue:—Rs. 1,41,418. Due to the salaries of Patel Talaties and refunds.

Interest:—Rs. 3,67,260. Due to the purchase of 5% Tax-Free Loan 1945-1955.

Education:—Rs. 78,349. Due to rise in salaries of establishments in schools and College and revision of grades in general.

Medical:—Rs. 45,534. Due to the salaries of establishments in the hospital and dispensaries and expenditure on stores.

Army:—Rs. 81,885. Due to increase in salaries, travelling allowances and ammunition.

Commerce and Industries:—Rs. 1,44,442. Due to the expenditure of the Government Press and the Dairy being charged to this head.

281. The heads which show an appreciable decrease under disbursements are :—

Decrease under
disbursements.

Stamps:—Rs. 9,955. Due to Documentary paper being ordered less in quantity than that of the previous year.

Opium:—Rs. 31,916. Due to less purchase of opium juice.

Public Works:—Rs. 4,58,637. Due to less expenditure incurred towards Public Works to be executed by the Railway Department.

Irrigation:—Rs. 6,546. Due to less expense towards irrigation works.

Agriculture:—Rs. 48,948. Due to the expenses towards the Dairy being charged to the Commerce Department..

282. The receipt and payment work of the City and the

The work of the
Baroda Bank, Ltd. Mahals at Naosari, Amreli, Dabhoi, Mehsana, Patan, Petlad, Kadi, Sidhpur, Karjan and Kalol, where the Bank of Baroda, Ltd., has its branches, has been discharged by the Bank satisfactorily. The receipt and payment work of the Opium Treasury at Sidhpur is also entrusted to the Sidhpur Branch of the Baroda Bank, Ltd.

283. The following table shows the Financial position of

the State at the close of the year as compared with that of the previous year;—

Particulars.					1924-25.	1925-26.
Assets.					Rs.	Rs.
Cash Balance	...	...	...	...	40,68,043	29,70,896
Fixed Deposits	...	...	...	...	92,00,000	1,25,66,623
Investments including amounts spent towards Railways and Reproductive Public Works	...	...	...	...	7,38,05,144	7,59,27,163
Total Assets	...	...	...	...	8,70,74,187	9,14,64,682
Liabilities	...	...	...	...	89,17,862	73,74,810
Net Assets	...	...	...	...	8,01,56,325	8,40,89,872
Increase	...	...	...	...	39,33,547	

284. The statement shows that the financial position of the State was stronger this year by about Rs. 39 lacs as compared with that of the previous year. It may be noted here that the State has till now invested about Rs. 4,46,98,803 in Railways and about Rs. 54,02,159 in Reproductive Public Works like irrigation, which during the year brought in a Revenue of Rs. 14,11,090 and Rs. 37,435 respectively, yielding a return of about 3.15 and .69 per cent respectively on capital.

285. Mr. N. K. Aloni, B.A., Bar-at-law, continued as Accountant General, upto 17-4-1926, when he was transferred as Sar Suba. Mr. R. H. Desai transferred from the Revenue Department then held the office during the remaining portion of the year.

286. The following Statement will show the amount of the work done by the Accounts Department during the year:—

Work of the Accounts Department.

Name.	Matters dis- posed.	Vouchers exa- mined.
Main Branch	22,037	...
Compilation Branch	774	6,137
Civil Audit Branch	20,925	74,253
Pre-Audit Branch... ..	1,302	44,415
Inspection Branch	333	...
P. W. Audit Branch including Local Boards	14,358	58,234
Sudharai Inspection Branch—		
Section A	859	2,993
Section B	889	1,503
Railway Audit Office	9,439	18,406
Insurance Branch	2,331	...

CHAPTER IV

THE ADMINISTRATION OF LAND AND REVENUE

287. The organisation of the department dealing with the land and other sources of revenue is a complex one having passed through many stages of development. Under the latest arrangement laid down in the Huzur Order No. 22/1 dated the 4th December 1925, the work which was originally entrusted to one department under one supreme head, has owing to the number and complexities of the duties required, been distributed between two departments with separate heads. By this fresh distribution during the year, while all the work dealing with Revenue proper has been left with the Sar Suba, the cognate branches of Survey and Settlement, Barkhali or Alienated land, Giras, Devasthan, Fouz-Mobadla and the assessment of non-agricultural land have been grouped together and placed under a separate head with the designation of "Survey and Settlement Superintendent" who is invested with the powers of the Sar Suba over these branches.

A. Land Revenue Proper

(a) ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

288. During the year under report the post of the Sar Suba was held by the following officers:-
Personnel.

Name.	From	To
Mr. Anant Narayan Datar, B.A., LL.B., A.M. (Col.).	1-8-25	30-3-26
Mr. Ramlal Hiralal Desai, B.A., LL.B....	1-4-26	16-4-26
Mr. Narayan Keshav Aloni B.A., Bar-at-Law.	17-4-26	31-7-26

The post of the Naib Sar Suba was held by Mr. Bhaskar Kashinath Bhate, B.A. (Cantab.), from 1-8-25 to 16-8-25 and from thereafter to the end of the year by Mr. Shankar Krishnarao Nayampalli, B A., LL.B.

289. The Sar Suba toured for 105 days and inspected the following offices:—

Inspection done by
the Sar Suba.

- (a) Tilakwada Peta Mahal,
- (b) Visnagar, Mangrol and Kodinar Mahal Offices,
- (c) Petlad and Vyara Naib Subas' Offices, and
- (d) Baroda Suba's Office.

The total number of villages visited by him was 110.

Early in the year, the Sar Suba went out to see the condition of the people and also of the crops which in north-west Kadi had suffered considerable damage from the total failure of late rains. When His Highness returned to the Capital, the Sar Suba was required to be at Head-quarters and in order that the touring and inspection work may not suffer, Mr. Ramlal Hiralal Desai was specially appointed to look after it with the powers of the Sar Suba.

290. The posts of the four Subas and of the Commissioner, Okhamandal, were held by the following

The posts of District
Officers.

officers :—

District.	Name of Officers.	Period during which the charge was held.	
		From	To
1	2	3	4
Baroda ...	Mr. S. V. Mukerjee, B.A., (Oxon.), F.R.S.S. (London)	1- 8-25	31- 7-26
Kadi ...	Mr. M. K. Nadkarni, B.A., LL.B.	1- 8-25	25- 3-26
	„ V. V. Kashalkar, M.A., LL.B.	26- 3-26	16- 5-26
	Shrimant G. V. Gaekwad.	17- 5-26	31- 7-26
Naosari ...	Mr. M. B. Nanavati, B.A., LL.B. A.M.	1- 8-25	8-11-25
	„ R. R. Pawar, B.A., LL.B., A.M.	9-11-25	31- 7-26
Amreli ...	Mr. M. M. Sitole, B.A., M.R., A.C., Bar-at-law.	1- 8-25	31- 7-26
Okhamandal	Col. Nanasaheb Sidhram Shinde, Bar-at-law.	1- 8-25	31- 7-26

291. The following table shows the number of days travelled and villages inspected by the Touring done by respective heads of the districts :—
Subas.

District.	Number of days.	Number of villages visited.
Baroda	131	156
Kadi... ..	162	134
Naosari	203	224
Amreli	102	134
Okhamandal ...	98	All the villages of Okhamandal.

The touring of all the Subas will thus be seen to have been satisfactory.

(b) GENERAL CONDITION

292. The following table gives figures of rain-fall during the year as compared with those of the preceding year, and the decennial average shewing that except in Okhamandal it fell short of that average. In Okhamandal it nearly approached the average. The little rain-fall that there was, was concentrated in the earlier part of the season and September was practically without any rain in a number of places. North West Kadi suffered most as also certain tracts in Amreli and Okhamandal. Proposals for suspensions and remissions were invited and land revenue to the extent of Rs. 5,10,911 and local cess to the extent of Rs. 5,672 were suspended and Rs. 67,798 from land revenue and Rs. 4,275 from local cess were remitted in the affected areas. Further relief was afforded by liberal grants of Tagavi wherever necessary.

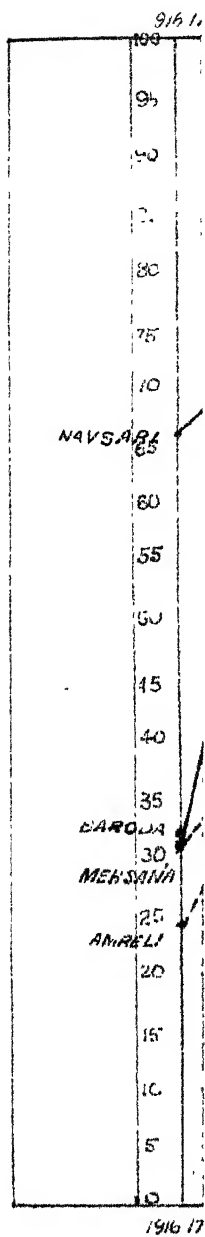
District.	Decennial average.	1924-25.	1925-26.
Baroda	31.30	24.69	28.25
Kadi... ..	23.93½	21.14	13.86½
Naosari	49.1	54.76	36.74½
Amreli	20.21	15.58	13.10
Okhamandal ...	9.92	6.78½	9.38

293. The yield of the principal crops in annas was as under :—

Yield of crops.

District.	Rice.		Bajri.		Juwar.		Cotton.	
	1924-25	1925-26	1924-25	1925-26	1924-25	1925-26	1924-25	1925-26
Baroda ...	9	6½	9	7½	9	6½	11	8
Kadi ...	4½	2½	8½	7½	8½	5	6½	4½
Naosari ...	12	8	8	6	12	12	12	10
Amreli ...	8	8	10	9	10	8	9	9
Okhamandal.	...	...	4	4	4	2	...	...

GR.



294. The following prices of food-stuffs prevailed during the year as compared with those of the preceding year. The figures represent the number of lbs. sold per rupee:—

District.	Rice.		Bajri.		Juwar.		Pulse.		Wheat.	
	1924-25	1925-26	1924-25	1925-26	1924-25	1925-26	1924-25	1925-26	1924-25	1925-26
Baroda.	13½	14¼	14½	11	17½	15	12	11½	9½	9¼
Kadi.	11	10½	16½	13½	18½	14¼	10	8	12¼	11½
Navsari.	12	8	10	12	16	16	10	12	8	10
Amreli.	9	9	17	13	20	17	8	8	12	11
Okhamandal.	8	7	15	13	14	17	12	10	10	10

(c) LAND REVENUE.

295. During the year the number of Government and alienated villages was as under :—

Number of Government and alienated villages.

District.	1924-25.		Total.	1925-26.		Total.
	Government villages.	Alienated villages.		Government villages.	Alienated villages.	
Baroda.	786	63½	849½	790	58½	848½
Kadi.	1071½	80½	1152	1073½	80½	1154
Naosari.	945	38	983	945	38	983
Amreli.	227	25	252	227	25	252
Okhamandal.	39	4	43	39	4	43
Total.	3068½	211	3279½	3074½	206	3280½

The decrease of five villages in the Baroda Division under the head of alienated villages was due to the fact that five Inami villages of the late Shrimant Jaisinhrao Gaekwar were resumed by Government; while the decrease in the total was due to the amalgamation of a hamlet with the parent village. The increase of two in the number of Government villages and in the total in the Kadi Division was due to the separation of two hamlets from parent villages.

296. The area of land in the five districts was as follows:—

District.				1924-25.	1925-26.
				Bighas.	Bighas.
Baroda	...	...	...	20,92,321	20,92,321
Kadi	...	...	...	33,22,452	33,22,505
Naosari	...	...	...	19,72,166	19,72,166
Amreli	...	...	...	11,73,328	11,73,305
Okhamandal	...	...	...	2,99,500	2,99,500
Total				88,59,767	88,59,797

The increase in the Kadi division is due to the survey operations carried on in some of the Talukas, while the decrease in the Amreli division being insignificant calls for no remarks.

297. The area of land relinquished and of that brought under cultivation during the year as compared with the preceding year was as follows:—

Area of land relinquished and brought under cultivation.

District.	Land relinquished in Bighas.		Land brought under cultivation in Bighas.	
	1924-25	1925-26	1924-25	1925-26
Baroda	107	170	2,963	3,548
Kadi	1,491	1,297	16,874	14,868
Naosari	121	102	6,687	719
Amreli	1,875	222	8,146	8,105
Okhamandal	212	162	1,076	2,554
Total	3,806	1,953	35,746	29,794

298. The following table gives the statistics of the transfer of land by the cultivators during the year as compared with those of the preceding year:—

Mode of transfer.	1924-25.		1925-26.	
	Persons.	Bighas.	Persons.	Bighas.
(1) Inheritance	7,446	1,22,646	8,288	1,24,138
(2) Partition	95	713	119	1,055
(3) Gift	559	3,232	367	2,766
(4) Mortgage	73	581	207	1,542
(5) Redemption	46	282	57	365
(6) Sale	14,643	1,31,965	14,515	1,27,697
(7) Other causes	1,170	12,274	1,718	14,152
Total	24,032	2,71,693	25,271	2,71,715

299. The following table gives the demand and realisation of land revenue for the year under report and the preceding one:—

Demand and collection of land revenue.

District.	1924-25.			1925-26.		
	Demand.	Realisation.	Per-centage.	Demand.	Realisation.	Per-centage.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.	
Baroda.	46,90,762	46,35,652	99	49,63,276	48,78,420	98
Kadi	38,31,476	37,61,186	98	39,54,151 less suspended 4,00,823 =35,53,328	33,87,609 (actual recovery) plus famine remissions 67,724 34,55,333	97.2
Naosari	19,85,281	19,71,046	99	19,89,732	19,78,627	99.4
Amreli	9,37,507 less 1,13,660 amount suspended =8,23,847	8,20,747	99	9,60,601 less 1,03,480 amount suspended =8,57,121	8,47,061 (actual recovery) + Famine remissions 74 =8,47,135	98.8
Okha- mandal	43,706 less 23,360 amount suspended = 20,346	4,142 (actual recovery) +14,745 amount remitted =18,917	20	58,492 less amount suspended 6,608 =51,884	47,973	92.4
Total	1,14,88,732 less 1,37,020 amount suspended =1,13,51,712	1,11,92,803 (actual recovery) plus 14,745 amount remitted= 1,12,07,548	99	1,19,26,252 less 5,10,911 amount suspended =1,14,15,341	1,11,39,690 (actual recovery) plus 67,798 Famine remissions 1,12,07,488	98

Looking to the unfavourable condition of the crops, the collections must be considered satisfactory. For, inspite of suspensions and remissions in some areas there were others, where, although such relief was not necessary, conditions were not quite so good as to enable a better realisation.

300. The following statement shows the demand and realisation of miscellaneous revenue items:—

Demand and realisation of miscellaneous items of revenue.

District.	Demand.	Collection.
	Rs.	Rs.
Baroda	74,488	74,198
Kadi	72,565	70,688
Naosari	54,074	52,285
Amreli	32,939	31,227
Okhamandal	1,22,977	1,02,750
Total...	3,57,043	3,31,148

301. In the last report, the outstanding old arrears at the close of 1924-25 for some of the Districts were by some unfortunate mistake incorrectly reported. The following statement will now show (1) the correct figures of the *old* unrecovered arrears of all kinds with which the year began, (2) recoveries and remissions during the year and (3) the balance unrecovered at the end of the year. When the unrecovered portion of the *year's* demand is added to the unrecovered balance of *old* arrears, the total will represent the amount of *old* arrears at the beginning of 1926-27. The large arrears are principally due to the suspensions granted during the last two years and other factors connected with lean years. It should be mentioned here that His Highness

the Maharaja Saheb was pleased, during the Golden Jubilee Celebrations, to order that old arrears to the extent of Rs. 2,98,000 should be written off, in addition to the remissions allowed on account of failure of crops mentioned above.

District.	Total old arrears at the beginning of 1925-26.	Recoveries and remissions during 1925-26.	Unrecovered old arrears at the end of 1925-26.	Unrecovered balance of the demand for 1925-26.	Total old arrears with which the year 1926-27 will begin.
1	2	3	4	5	6
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Baroda...	2,31,497	1,35,275	96,222	1,03,222	1,99,444
Kadi ...	8,12,062	95,326 (actual) + 34,277 Jubilee remissions = 1,29,603	6,82,459	5,43,641	12,26,100
Naosari...	51,468	37,686	13,782	13,697	27,479
Amreli ...	3,58,287	13,103 (actual) + 2,22,775 Jubilee remissions = 2,35,878	1,22,409	1,17,939	2,40,348
Okha- mandal ..	1,51,280	4,984 (actual) + 41,148 Jubilee remissions = 46,132	1,05,148	32,034	1,37,182
Total ...	16,04,594	5,84,574	10,20,020	8,10,533	18,30,553

302. The following comparative statement will show what Coercive measures. coercive measures were employed for the realisation of revenue demands :—

Measures.						1924-25.	19252-56
1.	Notices	...	...	...	...	12,724	16,014
2.	Fines	...	...	...	...	852	535
3.	Sales of land	...	...	...	...	79	51
4.	Sales of immoveable property, other than land	...	...	...	...	56	1,451
5.	Sales of moveable property	...	...	...	...	14	67
6.	Arrests	...	...	...	...	192	109
7.	Attachment of Barkhali Land	...	...	...	...	42	95
8.	Attachment of Sarkari land	...	...	...	...	1,471	3,415
9.	Resumption and forfeiture	...	...	...	...	1	...
10.	Cases in which land was declared unoccupied as there was no bidder.	...	...	...	...	...	2
11.	Forfeiture of Government land	...	...	...	...	39	45
Total						15,470	20,480

Although the figure of total occasions for taking coercive measures shows at first sight an increase of nearly 5,000, it will be seen that notices, attachments and sales of properties other than land have contributed to the increase.

B. Administration of the Land

(a) SURVEY AND SETTLEMENT

303. For the work of field to field classification of soil in the 66 villages of Kodinar Taluka and Classing field work. 67 villages in the Vaghodia Taluka, classers were sent out in the fair season under two Nimtandars—one for each Taluka. They classed (23,293 Vaghodia-31,808 Kodinar) 55,101 survey numbers out of which the Nimtandars tested 6,321 survey numbers (3,455 Vaghodia and 2,866 Kodinar) that is more than 11 per cent, the percentage of tests prescribed being ten.

304. At the close of the previous year, the settlement of Settlement work. (1) Sarasavani (2) Kothav, (3) Haripur, (4) Gunja Vanta, (5) Gerita Vanta, (6) Chitrodipura, (7) Kaneshara, was pending. Four new villages, Sardarpur, Hathipur, Vadosan of Vijapur Taluka and Sampra of Pattan were added during the year.

Thus in all 11 villages were to be settled. Of these, Jama-bandi has been sanctioned of Chitrodipura and Kothav, and Sunavani was made in the case of 4 villages, Gerita Vanta, Kaneshara, Sardarpur and Hathipur.

305. The number of Tumars on hand with the technical side of the office at the close of the previous year was 1,777. Those received during the year come to 2,659 making a total of 4436. Out of these, 3,504 have been disposed of, leaving a balance of 932 at the close of the year.

306. 85 village sheets were pending with the Photo Zinco Press, Poona, at the close of last year. All of them have been received during the year. Copies of 767 sheets of maps brought up-to-date by noting all the corrections and alterations effected after their being printed and were supplied to the Mahals and Prants requisitioning them.

307. The permanent establishment of the Maintenance Party carried out the Nazar Tapasni in the Kasba of Sidhpur and discovered 827 cases of encroachments. The Daban (encroachment) Patraks for this Kasba will be sent to the Mahals after checking the figure work this wet season. As a result of this Tapasni, carried out in the previous year, as many as 2579, Daban Patraks have been sent to the Mahals concerned. Only 546 have been cleared during the year.

308. At the close of the last year the Sudharais of the various Kasbas where City Survey operations have been carried out had on hand 1,543 Sanads to be delivered to the respective owners of the properties. 5,419 more Sanads were added during the year, making a total of 6,962. Out of these as many as 4,729 have been delivered during the year and Rs. 256 recovered by way of fine for overtime. Thus the number of Sanads still to be delivered stands at 2,233.

309. The number of appeals pending at the close of the previous year was 14. The number admitted during the year comes to 111, making a total of 125. All of these have been disposed of.

310. The number of suits pending in Civil Courts at the close of the previous year was 27. Civil Suits. Twenty nine more suits were filed during the year. Out of the total of 56, the number of suits decided during the year comes to 29, leaving a balance of 27.

311. The total expenditure for the department was Rs. 1,04,851-11-9 against Rs. 1,03,691-6-4 Expenditure. for the previous year, showing an increase of Rs. 1,160-5-5. The increase is accounted for by the fact that the bills for the printing charges of the maps amounting to Rs. 12,897 were overdue and were paid during the year.

312. The amount of miscellaneous receipts during the year comes to Rs. 8,485-15-3 as detailed below :—

Items.	Amounts.
Copying fee... ..	1,283-11-0
Cost awarded in Civil Suits	22-15-9
Sale proceeds of land	2,351-11-0
Mobadla fees	5- 0-0
Stamp duties and fines	25- 0-0
Miscellaneous	4,797- 9-6
Total	8,485-15-3

(b) BARKHALI (ALIENATIONS)

313. During the year orders were passed by the Huzur regarding the village of Nedra in the Village cases. Sidhpur Taluka in the Kadi district, which was continued.

314. 29 claims were preferred for cash amounting to Rs. 5,377-6-0. Of this Rs. 3,134-10-0 were continued, and claims of Rs. 2,242-12-0 were disallowed. 38 claims for Rs. 9,605-13-0 were preferred during the previous year, out of which Rs. 4,058-2-6 were continued and Rs. 5,547-10-6 were disallowed. In two cases Cash Haks amounting to Rs. 253-10-5 were purchased by paying Rs. 3,804-12-3 as lump sum according to rules. In the Vatan Branch, two claims were disposed of during the year under report. The amount claimed was Rs. 1,855-5-4, out of which Rs. 1,851-5-4 were continued and Rs. 4 were disallowed.

315. There were 351 claims about Barkhali land for disposal during the year under report. In 109 cases Settlement of Barkhali land. land measuring 479-6 bighas assessed at Rs. 1,145-8 was resumed, and in 5 cases land measuring 218-16 bighas assessed at Rs. 268-6 was continued. This year's figures compared with those of the last year stand as under:—

Item.	Last year.	This year.
1. Original Settlement ... ..	...	1
2. Review claims about Barkhali	63	22

316. During the year, 121 land succession cases came up for disposal as against 127 in the last year. Rs. 1,034-12-6 were levied as fine against Rs. 796-13-0 last year, and Rs. 143-13-6 were levied as Nazrana against Rs. 387-0-0 for last year. The total amount of fines and Nazrana comes to Rs. 1,178-10-0.

317. Orders were passed regarding 26 Farta Ankadia Matadari villages as the period fixed had expired. Work of Ankadia Branch. The increase was Rs. 9,564-8-0. Mutation of names in 2 Farta Ankadia Matadari villages was made.

One Mobadla of Ek-Ankadi Matadari village was made, and enhancement of Rs. 497 was made in this case in accordance with the rules.

318. 257-7 Bighas of land of Mul Girassias assessed at Rs.- 650-10-0 was purchased for Rs. 13,012-8 0. Out of this, the claims of 37 Shahukars amounting to Rs. 31,861-7-1 were compounded for Rs. 11,936-15-0 and the balance of Rs 1,075--9-0 was handed over to the Girassias. Thus the result is that Shahukars were paid about $\frac{1}{3}$ rd of their demand and the Mul Girassias benefitted to the extent of Rs. 19,924-8-1.

(c) GIRAS

319. There has been no change in the scope and nature of work of the Giras Department which as usual has to do the following work:—
 Scope and nature of Giras work.

(a) Inquiries into and passing decisions in:—

- (1) succession cases and
- (2) miscellaneous claims.

(b) Correspondence with the Residency, other departments of the State and Girassias.

(c) Buying up for a lump sum, guaranteed lands and cash Haks on commutation of land for an annual Kothli Santh (annuity).

(d) Inspection of Taluka offices and execution of original and appellate courts' decisions.

(e) Representing the State and conducting :appeals in the Residency.

320. There were 36 fresh succession cases, which with the balance of ten at the end of the preceding year brought up the total to 46. Out of these, 34 were disposed of during the year. There were 12 miscellaneous cases including 1 of the preceding year. Out of these, 17 were disposed of leaving a balance of two.

The Residency references amounting in all to 174 including 1 of the previous year were attended to and 173 of them were disposed of.

321. During the year, 34 appeals were heard and disposed of by the Resident. Out of these, 10 Residency Giras appeals. were admitted, 14 were rejected, 8 modified and 2 were remanded for fresh trial. These two cases that were remanded have since been disposed of.

322. As mentioned in the last year's report, correspondence regarding a scheme of applying a settlement to Chakariyat land for which no service is rendered and which is not necessary in these days is still going on.

(d) BOUNDARY BRANCH

323. Throughout the year, Mr. G. V. Gokhale, who was in charge of this branch, also continued to be the Baroda Delegate under the Personnel. Bombay-Baroda Boundary Convention of 1921. The Railway Demarcation and the supervision of the Political branch of the Sar Suba's Office were under his charge.

324. The following statement shows the work done during the year under report :—

No.	Description.	Past year's work.	Present year's work.	Remarks.
1	Boundaries surveyed.	103	102	—1
2	Do. verified and settled.	172	99	—73
3	Do. inspected.	129	87	—42
4	Cases in the Boundary Commissioner's Court.	1	1	...
5	Appeals in the N. D. Commissioner's Court.	1	1	...
6	Copies of maps and field-books supplied to Taluka Records.	235	365	+130
7	Boundaries inspected by Local Officers.	1,234	1,018	—216
8	Miles of Railway Demarcation.	57	81	+24

325. When the Cambay State frontier was surveyed and settled long ago with theodolite and chain, the Theodolite stations were left unmarked leading to difficulties in dealing with encroachment cases that arose during the inspections. To ensure quick disposal of these petty encroachment cases every year without delay the whole frontier was jointly verified and the theodolite stations were marked out with stones in accordance with the Bombay-Baroda Boundary Conventions.

326. The boundary dispute between Gadhada (Vijapur) and Dedhrota (Mahikantha) which was pending disposal since 1896 was at last handed over to the Boundary Commissioner, who visited the spot on 15th December 1925, recorded the statements of both the sides and gave his decision on 6th April 1926. It was particularly in favour of Gadhada, the cultivated part of the disputed land being awarded to Baroda and the uncultivated waste to Dedhrota.

327. Under the Bombay-Baroda Boundary Convention, the work of joint survey was continued throughout the whole season. All the disputes have been amicably settled and only one case was sent up for disposal to the Director of Land Records of the Bombay Presidency and the Sar Suba of this State as the Delegates could not agree among themselves. The work with the Ahmedabad and the Panchmahals Collectorates has almost been finished. The draft for instructions to the local Officers to deal with any disputes that may arise after this settlement, approved of by both the British and Baroda Governments, was printed and is being circulated. Some modifications in the Convention are proposed relating to the settlement of the ownership of trees standing on the frontier.

(e) RAILWAY DEMARCATION

328. The Demarcation Survey of (1) Motipura-Tanakhala, (2) Bahadurpur-Bodeli, (3) Kosamba-Zankhvav, and (4) Billimora-Kala Amba Railways was completed. The total mileage of the survey done was 81. Last year it was only 57.

329. The question of relinquishment of the excess land at Padra, Mobha, and Masar Road Stations was settled. It has been handed over to the local officers for selling the same by public auction as it was likely to bring in a good amount to the Government. The question of the relinquishment of the excess land on T. V. Railway Stations has been referred to the Railway Board who have issued instructions to the Senior Government Inspector of Circle No. V to investigate the case.

330. The field work for amalgamating the relinquished land into the adjoining survey numbers was done on the Dabhoi-Timba, and Petlad-Pij Railways. It is estimated that about 357 bighas of land will be added. This covered the length of 37 miles.

331. The work of correction in the Survey papers and the maintenance of the demarcation records is much in arrears owing to the insufficiency of the staff. Some addition to the permanent staff for the latter work and a loan of two men from the Survey department for the former will be necessary to complete the arrears.

332. The work of corrections in the Survey papers is much in arrears and two more measurers will have to be indented for from the Survey department in addition to the two already working under the supervision of this office.

(f) COMPENSATION

333. As usual, the work of assessing compensation for land acquisition was carried out through the agency of the Revenue Naib Subas.

The following statement shows the cases disposed of with the necessary details regarding the work done during the year :—

Statement showing the cases disposed of together with the details of the land acquired and compensation awarded for the year 1925-26 with the comparative figures for the year 1924-25:—

Name of the District.	No. of cases disposed of.	Area of land compensated for.		Kothali Santl.	Amount of award in Rs.		Area of land given in exchange.		Amount awarded for property other than land.
		Bighas.	Sq. feet.				Bighas.	Sq. feet.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
Baroda.	194	26-13-14½	1,11,973-17	...	26,888- 7-11	...	...	35,245- 8-11	
Kadi.	43	14- 4- 9½	49,132- 8	...	4,839- 6- 5	0-19	16,512	9,161-10- 8	
Navsari.	23	8- 0- 0	36,032- 0	...	15,035-15- 9	0- 1	...	2,372- 1- 0	
Amreli.	46	76- 4- 0	1,37,564- 7	...	9,333- 1- 0	...	...	5,055-14-11	
Okhamandal, Commissioner's Office.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	306	125- 2- 3¼	3,34,701-32	...	56,096-15- 1	1- 0	16,512	51,835- 3- 6	
Figures for the year 1924-25..	508	87-13- 2¼	2,67,167½-28½	5-0-0	1,79,772- 1-2	1-12	...	56,367- 8- 8	

(g) ATTACHED ESTATES

334. The following table shows the number of estates under attachment at the beginning and close of the year under report and the causes which led to their attachment :—

Number of estates and causes of attachment.

No.	Causes of attachment.	Estates under attachment at the beginning of the year.	Estates under attachment at the close of the year.
1	Under the Guardian and Ward Act ...	65	67
2	Mortgaged to Government for Loans ...	33	32
3	Attached for arrears of Revenue ...	18	18
4	Attached owing to disputes among holders... ..	12	13
5	Attached owing to mis-management of temples	79	84
6	Attached pending mutation of names ...	11	10
7	Attached for protection of Government share	4	5
8	Attached as properties of temples under Government management	14	14
9	Attached for other reasons	68	67
	Total ...	304	310

The number of estates newly attached is 27 and those released from attachment is 25 respectively.

335. The following table shows the number of estates under attachment, the annual demand, realisation and arrears for the year under report as compared with those in the preceding year:—

Demand and collection of attached estates.

Year.	No. of estates.	Demand.			Collection.		
		Past.	Current.	Total.	Past.	Current.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1924-25	304	1,70,211	5,36,756	7,06,967	47,537	5,16,429	5,63,966
1925-26	310	1,35,886	5,01,366	6,37,252	50,864	4,75,218	5,26,082

Year.	No. of estates.	Arrears.			Over-collection.		
		Past.	Current.	Total.	Past.	Current.	Total.
1	2	9	10	11	12	13	14
1924-25	304	1,23,247	23,160	1,46,407	572	2,834	3,406
1925-26	310	85,217	28,533	1,13,750	195	2,385	2,580

336. The following table shows the number of years for which the several estates have continued under attachment :—

Under one year.	Number of Estates under attachment for more than							
	one year.	two years.	three years.	four years.	five years.	ten years.	fifteen years.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
39	43	52	19	16	80	21	40	310

C. Other Sources of Revenue

(a) EXCISE

337. The department of Customs, Salt, Opium and Excise continued to be under the control of the Personnel.
Excise Commissioner Mr. R. H. Desai,

18 A, R,

B.A., LL.B., till 12-12-25, when it was transferred to the Sar Suba. As Sar Suba, Mr. A. N. Datar held charge of this department till 31-3-26 when he went on leave and Mr. N. K. Aloni assumed it from 17-4-26. During the interval of 16 days the charge remained with Mr. R. H. Desai.

338. The Excise Revenue was derived from manufacture and sale of country and foreign liquors
 Sources of Revenue. and from the licenses for the sale of toddy and intoxicating and poisonous drugs.

339. The contract of manufacture and supply of liquor for the Baroda and Kadi districts remained
 Distilling Contracts. with the Alembic Chemical Works Co., Ltd., and that for the Naosari district with Messrs. Gyara & Co., as in the previous years. The Farm for the manufacture and sale of country liquor in the Amreli district (including Okhamandal) remained with Messrs. Dorabji Nowroji and Sorabsha Adarjee of Kodinar.

340. As shown in the report of the last year, the retail shops of country liquor remained with the old
 Farms of Liquor Shops. shop-keepers till the end of March 1926. From April 1926, the Baroda City Block of liquor shops was given to Mr. Fanibanda for three years for Rs. 5,20,000 every year payable in twelve monthly installments. According to this new system the Ijar-dar is allowed to draw liquor from the Distillery upto the quantity, the collective duty on which should not exceed the sum of the paid up instalments. At the end of the year, a part of the sum i.e. duty calculated on the total issue of liquor is to be considered as the realised duty, and the remaining sum as license fee. The retail shops in the Baroda district except Baroda City have been given to the old shop-keepers on the basis of the last year's consumption with fixed license fees. By this system, gallons to be sold by the shop-keepers are fixed on the sales of 1924-25 and the license fee is fixed according to the selling prices at which the shop keepers were selling liquor in the previous year. The contract for the selling of liquor for the whole of the Kadi district is given to

Messrs. Gyara, Tata & Dabu for Rs. 3,50,001 and for the whole of the Navsari District to Mr. Fanibanda for Rs. 16,50,000 on the lines of the Baroda City Block.

341. As shown in the last year's report, some increase in duty rates on the border shops was made in the Navsari district. During the year under report, further increase was made in the duty rates on border as well as on interior shops of that district from 1-4-26. Some increase in duty rates was also made in the Baroda district. Owing to the prevalence of illicit distillation of country liquor on a large scale and consequent decrease in the sale of licit liquor in Kadi district no increase of duty rates was possible there.

342. The sale of 40° U. P. liquor in place of 60° U. P. was restricted to Petlad and Bhadran Talukas of Baroda district and Vijapur Taluka of Kadi district. In the present contract given for the whole Kadi district 40° liquor is allowed to be sold throughout the whole district.

343. The following statement will show the figures of the Excise revenue for the year under report as compared with the year preceding :—

Serial No.	Item.	1924-25.	1925-26.
		Rs.	Rs.
1	Manufacture and sale of country liquor.	29,28,973	28,90,815
2	Duty and license fee for the sale of foreign liquors including rectified and denatured spirits.	35,018	39,582
3	Sale of Toddy	4,23,933	4,98,298
4	Sale of intoxicating and poisonous drugs.	98,687	98,546
5	Miscellaneous	49,348	70,980
	Total...	35,35,959	35,98,221

The decrease under the first item is due to less quantity of liquor issued to shop-keepers.

The increase under item No. 2 is owing to more spirit being issued to Medical Department and to the Alembic Pharmacy for manufacturing spirituous preparations.

The increase under item No. 3 is explained by the reasons that the rates of tree-tax for tapping toddy trees were increased from the beginning of the year under report and that higher license fees were realized in the auctions of individual shops.

The difference in item No. 4 is very small and hence calls for no remarks.

The increase under item No. 5 is due to the varying amount realized from the difference between the cost price of liquor charged to shop-keepers and that paid to Distilling Contractors, and which had been ordered to be credited to Government.

344. The following statement gives the demand, collection and arrears of Excise revenue for the year under report :—

District.	Demand.	Surplus.	Total Collections.	Arrears.
Baroda	13,27,270	394	12,07,004	1,20,660
Kadi	3,36,657	1,815	3,18,139	20,333
Navsari... ..	20,40,400	206	20,26,404	14,202
Amreli	29,055	...	27,277	1,778
Okhamandal ...	3,301	...	2,330	971
Total -	37,36,683	2,415	35,81,154	1,57,944

The amount of Rs. 78,582 collected last year is credited to this year's demand and hence is included in the amount of collection. Rs. 95,649 were realized out of past arrears, over and above these collections.

In the amount shown as arrears, sums amounting to Rs. 58,026 are included which are to be recovered from the British Government on account of refund of duty on Bhang, Ganja and Charas. They will be recovered next year. The remaining sum of Rs. 99,918 is to be recovered from shopkeepers of the districts as under:—

Baroda ...	86,432
Kadi ...	4,829
Navsari ...	8,657
<hr/>	
Total...	99,918

The arrears in the Baroda district are heavy. The cause is that the demand for four months from April 1926 to July 1926 is small in proportion to the full one year demand. The sale of country liquor is less and so the duty and license fee which are recovered at the time of issue is also less; but they will be recovered before the close of the Abkari year i.e. in March 1927 as accounts are made up at the end of every year of the Ijara.

345. The following comparative statement gives the number of shops by districts:—

District.	Country liquor shops.		Toddy shops.		Foreign liquor shops.		Total.	
	24-25	25-26	24-25	25-26	24-25	25-26	24-25	25-26
Baroda ...	187	187	29	11	9	9	225	207
Kadi ...	186	186	...	...	3	3	189	189
Navsari ...	287	286	286	250	8	8	581	544
Amreli ...	23	23	...	...	1	1	24	24
Okhamandal.	2	2	...	...	...	...	2	2
Total...	685	684	315	261	21	21	1,021	966

There were besides these, 187 tree-foot booths against 204 in the preceding year. Certain toddy shops remained closed for many years and certain others were closed during the year; hence the decrease in the number of toddy shops. The total number of liquor shops sanctioned in the new Ijara of Navasari district is 293, out of which 7 shops were not opened till the end of the year under report.

346. The following statement gives the number of offences detected against the Abkari Act and the number of convictions and acquittals thereof :—

District.	Last year's pending offences.	This year's offences.	Total.	Convictions.	Acquittals.	Pending.
Baroda ...	3	106	109	94	10	5
Kadi ...	30	176	206	161	34	11
Navsari ...	...	305	305	282	9	14
Amreli ...	...	2	2	2	...	...
Okhamandal.	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total...	33	589	622	539	53	30

This year the number of offences detected was 589 against 578 of the last year. This shows a small increase on the whole. But greater zeal for work is shown by the Inspectorial staff of the Baroda and Navsari divisions. In Kadi division, however, the number of offences in the year under report is 176 while it was 311 last year.

(b) OPIUM

347. The sources of Opium revenue are :—

Sources of Opium revenue.

- (a) Profit on opium issued to licensed vendors for local consumption.

(b) Fees for licenses for retail sale.

(c) Miscellaneous receipts.

348. The manufacture of opium is a State monopoly on the "Bengal System". The issue rate of opium from the Depots continued to be Rs. 37-8-0 per seer of 40 tolas.

349. The retail vend licenses continued with the old licensees on the terms of the last two years.

350. Poppy was cultivated in the Sidhpur, Kheralu and Visnagar Talukas of the Kadi district. Poppy cultivation. Applications for permission to cultivate poppy were received from 20 villages and permits to cultivate poppy in 246 bighas was given. Owing to scarcity of water cultivation was actually done in 206 bighas. The juice tendered by the cultivators was 13 mds. 21 srs. 35 tolas against 176 mds. 26 srs. and 10 tolas of the preceding year. The cultivators are bound to sell the whole produce of opium juice to Government at the rate fixed for the year which was Rs. 5 per seer as in the preceding year.

351. The following figures show the quantity of opium sent to the depots from the Opium Factory at Sidhpur :—

Opium sent to the Depots and consumption.

Year.			Lbs.
1925-26	...	...	9,450
1924-25	...	...	20,650

The Baroda opium depot had drawn more opium in the preceding year and hence in the year under report that depot did not take it from the factory.

The actual consumption of opium in the year was 14,372 lbs. against 14,509 of the previous year showing a decrease of lbs. 137.

352. The financial results of the sale of opium in the State Opium Revenue. are as follows :—

Year.			Cost of production Rs.	Amount realized from licensed vendors. Rs.	Profit to the State.
1924-25	...	...	83,920	6,47,052	5,63,135
1925-26	...	...	1,20,570	6,39,933	5,19,363

The decrease of Rs. 43,772 is mainly due to the higher cost of production and decreased consumption.

(c) CUSTOMS AND PORT DUES

353. The following figures show the revenue obtained from
 Revenue from Customs and Port dues. (1) Customs duties at Chandod and the Excise duty on cotton goods produced in the Mills, (2) the Sea Customs and Port dues and (3) the Wharfage dues and Armar cess in the Navsari district :—

District.				Year 1924-25.	Year 1925-26.
Baroda	...	...	...	1,74,503	2,44,078
Kadi	...	...	...	72,568	40,796
Navsari	...	...	...	25,264	18,175
Amreli	...	...	...	9,957	8,956
Okhamandal	...	...	...	50,528	67,150
Total				3,32,820	3,79,155

It will be seen from the above figures that there is an increase of Rs. 46,335 in the customs revenue for the year under report. Excise duty on cotton has been abolished

from 1st December 1925 and revenue from this source ceased to be realized. Baroda District shows an increase on account of Rs. 1,61,210, the amount of refund received from the British Government for the Customs duty on goods imported by the Cement Factory of Dwarka, being credited to the account of the Pre-Audit treasury. The decrease in Kadi, Navsari and Amreli districts may be attributed to the abolition of Excise duty on cotton goods. Okhamandal shows an increase owing to the opening of Port Okha.

(d) SALT

354. The salt arrangement for the Baroda, Kadi and Navsari districts remained unchanged.
Salt arrangement.

355. There are five salt beds in Kodinar Taluka and these were put to auction for one year. Out of these, three were leased and the remaining two did not attract bidders for want of formation of salt. The monopoly given for collecting, manufacturing and selling salt fetched Rs. 30-9-0 as against Rs. 35-5-0 in the previous year. 200 mds. of salt was manufactured.

356. The right of collecting salt from the salt beds of Okhamandal was auctioned for the year under report and Rs. 396 were realized from the Ijardar. The following statement will show the transactions in salt :—

						Maunds.
The balance of salt in the beginning of the year...	...	...	...	...	...	98,050
The collection of salt by the present Ijardar	...	...	...	...	...	1,225
				Total		99,275
Salt sent out of India	...	...	...	...	...	20,000
Salt sold locally	...	...	...	...	...	1,825
Salt remaining at the end of the year	...	...	...	...	...	77,450

(e) INCOME TAX

357. The following table shows the demand and realisation of Income tax during the year as compared with those of the preceding year:—

District.	1924-25.		Percentage.	1925-26.		Percentage.
	Demand.	Collection.		Demand.	Collection.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.	
Baroda ...	2,05,155	1,97,490	96	2,77,827	2,68,260	96.4
Kadi ...	2,13,831	2,02,131	94	1,51,025	1,25,385	83
Naosari ...	43,447	40,927	95	51,888	51,621	99.4
Amreli ...	20,203	19,791	98	20,600	19,888	96.5
Okhamandal.	6,927	5,652	82	8,482	7,383	87
Total ...	4,89,563	4,65,991	95	5,09,822	4,72,507	92.6

The small decrease in the demand in the Kadi district was probably due to leakage since the scrutiny of accounts which was latterly done by a special staff was for some time of the year in the hands of the Mahal Officers who naturally could not spare time from their other duties to scrutinise the accounts as carefully as they should have been scrutinized.

(f) STAMPS

358. The revenue derived from the sale of stamps during the last two years is shown in the following table ;—

Revenue.

Sources of Revenue.	1924-25.	1925-26.
	Rs.	Rs.
Sale of Court Fee Stamps	5,23,513	5,22,032
Sale of Documentary Stamps	6,64,986	5,87,019
Special Levies	13,372	11,313
Miscellaneous receipts	9,062	8,534
Total ...	12,10,938	11,28,948

There was a decrease of Rs. 81,990 in the total receipts, the shortage in the sale of documentary stamps being largely responsible for it, due to a smaller number of documents registered and the lower value of land.

359. The following statement shows the expenditure incurred under the head of "Stamps" :-
Expenditure.

Year.	Rs.
1024-25	84,971
1925-26	75,016

The expenditure has decreased by Rs. 9,955 mostly due to printing of less number of stamps in the year.

360. The department referred 64 cases to the Varishta Court for decision, of which 14 were due to the Personal Assistant's inspection. There were in all 104 cases, of which 86 were decided, the court agreeing with the department in 63 and differing in 23. The number of cases, pending decision at the close of the year was 18.

Cases referred to the
Varishta Court.

CHAPTER V

LOCAL SELF GOVERNMENT

A. Local Boards

361. The term local boards includes the Village Panchayats, Mahal Panchayats and the Prant or District Panchayats. The Village Panchayats were established as early as 1891, and the Mahal and Prant Panchayats later in 1904 under the Sthanik Panchayat Act passed in that year. A local cess of one anna in the rupee paid as land revenue is levied for the Mahal and the District Boards, while for the Village Boards, Government have earmarked certain items of revenues such as rental of village sites, the income from the sale of fruits and fire-wood from publicly owned trees, the receipt from the cattle pounds, and the sale of grass.

362. The following table shows the demand and realisation of local cess during the year as compared with those of the preceding year :—

Local cess.

District.	1924-25.		Per-centage.	1925-26.		Per-centage.
	Demand.	Collection.		Demand.	Collection	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.	
Baroda ...	3,47,260	3,46,452	99	3,58,326	3,49,816	97.1
Kadi ...	2,81,342	2,77,076	98	2,86,512 less suspended 5,339 =2,81,173	2,54,930 plus famine remissions 4,275 =2,69,205	90.6
Naosari ...	1,48,042	1,47,509	99	1,45,561	1,45,025	99.6
Amreli ...	73,248 less 3,895 amount suspended =69,353	69,078	99	73,265 less 296 amount suspended =72,969	71,216	98
Okhamandal ...	4,437 less 3,050 amount suspended =1,387	499	36	4,176 less suspended 37 =4,139	3,986	96.5
Total ...	8,54,329 less 6,945 amount suspended =8,47,384	8,40,614	99	8,67,840 less 5,672 amount suspended =8,62,168	8,24,973 plus famine remissions 4,275 =8,29,248	96

363. The constitution of the District Boards remained unchanged. The Baroda District Board Constitution. continued to enjoy the power of electing its own President and Mr. Tulsibhai Bakorbhai Amin worked as the elected President. The Subas were the Presidents of the District Boards of Kadi, Navsari and Amreli and the Naib Subas had to work as Presidents of the Mahal Panchavats

(Taluka Boards). Most of the Mahal Panchayats continued to elect their own Vice-Presidents from the non-official members and the Mahal Panchayats of Baroda, Petlad, Bhadran, Savali, Amreli and Pattan were authorised to elect their Presidents.

Village Boards in Baroda and Navsari districts were allowed to elect their own Presidents.

364. All the four District Boards were encouraged to engage their own Engineering staff, the Madras system continued. Government contributing the cost in proportion to the expenses incurred on Local Public Works entrusted to them. Orders were passed to stop this system in the Navsari and Amreli districts and to re-transfer the P. W. D. works to the P. W. Department, but it was subsequently ordered to be given effect to from the beginning of the succeeding year.

365, The income of the Boards under the various heads is shown below :—
Income.

No.	Heads of income.	1925-26	1924-25	Increase.	Decrease.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Local Cess (including last year's balance).	13,59,144	12,72,514	86,630	...	The Taluka Local Boards of the Navsari district withdrew amounts to meet Panchayat expenditure from the Bank and more amount of Local Cess was collected in the Baroda, Kadi and Amreli Districts; hence the increase.
2	Contribution from Government for Public Libraries, Schools and Chowras.	1,90,374	1,87,752	2,622	...	The increase is due to the fact that more amount of Compulsory fines was credited in the Kadi District, and that Local Boards of the Navsari and Amreli districts have done more work during the year under report.
3	Contribution from private individuals.	57,753	46,273	11,480	...	More contribution received from private individuals for Dharmshallas at Dhari, Darnagar, Khamba and Kodinar on account of Golden Jubilee of His Highness. Hence the increase.
4	Miscellaneous	1,24,393	1,38,255	...	13,862	This item includes the items of adjustments of accounts and thus calls for no remarks.
5	Proceeds from Ferry Boats.	33	25	8	...	Nil.

6	Rents from Dharmshallas and Public buildings.	183	288	...	105	Nil.
7	Recovery of advances and outstanding balances.	30,14,731	20,52,473	9,62,258	...	The increase is due to the withdrawal of more sums deposited in the Bank. Besides the item includes the items of adjustment.
8	Reserve Fund.	94,000	1,75,000	...	81,000	There was less demand for Reserve Fund during the year under report.
9	Contribution from P. W D. for Government works.	3,48,055	2,51,388	96,667	...	More P. W. D. works were transferred to the Local Boards; hence the increase.
10	Interest on Reserve Fund.	61,750	47,643	14,107	...	More amounts of interest were recovered by the Boards during the year.
	Total...	52,50,416	41,71,611	11,73,772	94,967	

366. The following table shows the heads of expenditure by these bodies:—

Expenditure.

No.	Heads of Expenditure.	1925-26.	1924-25.	Increase.	Decrease.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Administration ...	Rs. 1,41,100	Rs. 1,20,461	Rs. 20,639	Rs. ...	The Navsari District Board have put one Sub-Engineer for forest works. The Kadi district increased contingent grants to Mahal Panchayats and also included travelling allowances of members in this item and the Amreli district had to sanction promotions due to the establishment; hence the increase.
2	Civil Works ...	11,14,312	8,18,913	2,95,399	...	The Local Boards in the Baroda, Kadi and Navsari Districts carried out more works, specially boring works in the Baroda and Kadi districts, to meet scarcity of water supply.
3	Education ...	3,04,768	2,69,751	35,017	...	The amount in proportion of Local Cess received is deducted from the Local Cess grant and more works were executed from Compulsory fine funds in the Kadi district; hence the increase.

4	Medical and Vaccination...	49,588	43,845	5,743	...	More sums were given to Vaccination department by the Baroda, Kadi and Amreli districts.
5	Sanitation and other public convenience.	33,980	24,683	9,297	...	The increase is due to the expenses of the Veterinary Dispensaries in the Navsari district.
6	Advances...	96,096	71,004	25,092	...	More advances were paid for boring works.
7	Miscellaneous	1,54,165	18,82,565	...	17,28,400	This item includes the items of adjustment and the balances deposited in the Banks.
8	Contribution from Local Cess to Municipalities and Vishista Panchayats.	16,253	17,688	..	1,435	Nil.
9	Refund from unspent savings of last year.	29,15,396	6,57,462	22,57,934	...	The balance shown of Vyara Mahal Panchayat was found to be in-correct; necessary correction has been made in the figure for the head concerned. The Kadi district credited more sums in the Bank; hence the increase.
10	Expenditure from last year's balances.	1,97,215	14,051	1,83,164	...	More sums were refunded to Mahal Panchayats; hence the increase.
11	Interest on Reserve Fund.	...	...	...	...
12	Reserve-Fund.	1,30,374	1,92,039	...	61,665	Less sum being credited to reserve fund there seems decrease.
	Total ...	51,53,247	41,12,462	28,32,285	17,91,500	

367. The following statement compares the charges under the various heads of Civil Works incurred during the year with those of the preceding year:—

Items.	1925-26	1924-25
1	2	3
A. Communications:—		
(a) Original.	33,195	45,336
(b) Repairs.	92,504	73,669
Total ...	1,25,663	1,19,005
B. Civil Buildings:—		
(1) Chowras.		
(a) Original.	46,851	51,394
(b) Repairs.	65,287	77,340
Total ...	1,12,138	1,28,734
(2) Public Buildings, Libraries, etc.:		
(a) Original.	2,04,520	1,25,154
(b) Repairs.	15,358	17,653
Total ...	2,19,878	1,42,807
(3) Tile-turning and supervision.	7,223	9,400
Total Civil Buildings ...	3,39,239	2,80,941
C. Water Supply:—		
(1) Wells:—		
(a) Original.	1,98,201	1,28,898
(b) Repairs.	2,01,237	1,33,423
Total ...	3,99,438	2,62,321

Items.	1925-26	1924-25
1	2	3
(2) Tanks:—		
(a) Original.	29,821	6,577
(b) Repairs.	21,867	6,832
Total ...	51,688	13,409
(3) Cattle Troughs:—		
(a) Original.	17,557	7,149
(b) Repairs.	8,605	14,842
(c) Filling the troughs	2,353	...
Total ...	28,515	21,991
Total Water Supply ...	4,79,641	2,97,721
D. Other Works:—		
(a) Original.	9,681	9,115
(b) Repairs.	40,259	20,572
Total ...	49,940	29,687
E. Other works with the agency of Village Boards-	...	...
Grand total ...	9,94,483	7,27,354

The above figures will show an increase of Rs. 2,67,129 during the year which is mostly under water supply and other works. The reason of the increase is chiefly due to the fact that the Local Boards in the Baroda, Kadi and Navsari districts carried out more works, boring works being specially prominent in the Kadi district. The Kadi District Board resolved to spend Rs. 25,000 every year

continuously for ten years for boring works. Accordingly Rs. 44,288-6-2 were spent towards boring operations during the year under report as against Rs. 19,899-8-4 spent last year. Fortunately two artesian springs, were tapped in Chanasma Taluka, one at Jasalpur and the other at Delmal, at a depth of 172 and 201 feet with a flow of 1,000 and 1,200 gallons per hour respectively from 4" bore. In all, seven artesian wells have been tapped upto now. The Kadi district Board has expended a large amount out of its scanty income towards boring works.

The Government have ordered that an equal amount should be contributed towards expenditure incurred by the Local Boards for boring works as help and encouragement. Accordingly the Board obtained Rs. 50,000 contribution from Government.

368. Village Boards of the Baroda, Kadi and Navsari districts exercise Civil and Criminal powers. It would be desirable if a larger number showed themselves qualified for this important work in all districts. People would appreciate cheap and speedy justice near their own doors.

369. On the whole, the working of the Local Boards was fairly satisfactory. The general disinclination, to raise funds for useful works by taxation, continues more or less unabated. Efforts are being made to effect a change in this attitude.

B. Vishishta Panchayats.

370. There were 12 Vishishta Panchayats in the Baroda district, 10 in the Kadi district, 6 in the Navsari district, 3 in the Amreli district and 2 in the Okha division making a total of 33.

371. The constitution of these Vishishta Panchayats was the same viz. 2/3 elected and 1/3 nominated members according to the amendment of Section 54 of the Gam

Panchayat Niyam. These bodies combine in themselves, the duties of both the Village Boards and Municipalities. A special law has, therefore, been drafted for the working of these Panchayats, which is expected to be shortly put on the Statute-book. The number of meetings held by them ranged from 4 to 23 during the year.

372. The total gross income of all the Vishishta Panchayats in the State, including the contributions from the local cess amounted to Rs. 2,80,381 against Rs. 2,96,979 in the previous year. Their expenditure during the year amounted to Rs. 2,64,663 against Rs. 2,83,290 in the previous year.

Income and expenditure.

373. The work of these bodies is generally inspected by the Sar Suba, the Sanitary Commissioner, Suba, Naib Suba and the Naib Panchayat Adhikari and the accounts of these bodies are audited by the Auditors of the Accounts department.

Inspection.

374. The work of these Panchayats is carried on a more systematic basis than the work of the ordinary Village Panchayats. It is, therefore, necessary to induce the bigger Village Bodies to transform themselves into Vishishta Panchayats, so as to undertake greater and more befitting responsibilities. People, however, are generally averse to try the experiment, apprehending increase of taxation in one form or other.

People refuse to accept Vishishta Panchayats.

375. On the whole, the work of the Vishishta Panchayats was satisfactory, taking into consideration their social and economic conditions.

The work is satisfactory.

C. Municipalities.

376. The number of Municipalities continued to be the same as in the preceding year, viz. 11.

The number of Municipalities.

377. The constitution of these bodies remained the same as in the previous year, except that of the Constitution. Baroda City Municipality. During the year under report, Mr. R. H. Gokhale, an elected member of the body, worked as the Municipal Commissioner and President upto 12th December 1925 when he resigned his post and Dr. D. C. Talati was appointed as the Municipal Commissioner and President. He also worked as the Health Officer. Dr. Talati continued as President, Commissioner and Health Officer upto the end of the year. The Subas of the districts continued to be the Presidents of Petlad and Pattan Municipalities and the Sub-Divisional Naib Subas were the Presidents of the Dabhoi, Visnagar, Sidhpur, Mehsana, Billimora and Gandevi Municipalities. The Municipalities of Navsari and Amreli were empowered to elect their own non-official Presidents instead of ex-officio Presidents.

378. The gross income of all the Municipalities was Rs. 10,34,338 as against Rs. 10,88,453 in the preceding year showing a decrease of Rs. 54,115, the income of the Baroda City Municipality including Government grant being Rs. 6,32,838 against Rs. 6,65,103 in the preceding year. The total expenditure of all the Municipalities together was Rs. 9,75,478 as against Rs. 9,39,096 in the preceding year, that of the Baroda City Municipality being Rs. 5,87,377 against Rs. 6,24,364 in the preceding year.

In the City Municipality of Baroda 19 elected and 1 nominated member, resigned during the year under report as a protest against increase in taxation. As a result of fresh elections the same persons who had resigned were returned.

379. An Anti-Malaria Campaign in the Navsari district was started from the 15th April 1925 and a troop of labourers was engaged for the purpose of destroying mosquitoes and their larvae from their breeding places, which were very often cleansed by crude oil, etc. This work was done under the supervision of the President of the Anti-Malaria Campaign Committee, till the end of the malaria season, when it was taken over by the Chairman of the Municipality who continued the work throughout the year.

CHAPTER VI.

INDUSTRIES AND COMMERCE.

A. Agriculture.

380. The official year which begins on the 1st August divides the monsoon almost into half and it is, therefore, always difficult to give a fair account of the weather and crops in the State in any particular year.
 Agricultural season divided into two by the official year.
 To make up for this deficiency, an account of the 1925 as well as the 1926 monsoon is given, as by the time this report is prepared, the monsoon is over and it is possible to forecast the crop conditions.

381. The figures of rain-fall for the 1925 season have been given in para 292 Chapter IV.
 The 1925 monsoon.

382. The agricultural season for 1926-27 commenced with a pre-monsoon storm accompanied by rain running over Kathiawar and part of Kadi district. In Kathiawar where scarcity of water was being acutely felt, the rain storm was naturally very welcome. The disturbance, however, occasioned delay in the establishment of the regular monsoon to such an extent as to cause real anxiety with regard to the character of the whole season until the Arabian current established itself in right earnest during the last days of June and extended in the interior in the first part of July, when a greater part of the Baroda district received enough rains to start agricultural operations. The Amreli and some parts of the Kadi district had received sufficient rain before this, and the sowing operations commenced in earnest.

The phenomenal record of 17·37 inches of rain was achieved on 6th July 1926 at Kodinar, which was preceded by

a rain-fall amounting to 15.55 inches during the two previous days. Before sowing could be undertaken in many cases, a succession of depressions brought heavy rain during the middle of July especially in the Navsari district.

By the middle of August, conditions of rain-fall were such that an excellent crop fore-cast was being looked forward to if only a sufficient break in the rains could be had. This was, however, not to be and pouring rain continued during the rest of August and early September. This congestion of wet weather hindered sowing altogether in many cases and resulted in a poor stand of crops in spite of repeated sowings. Weeds over-grew the plants and an inhibition in crop growth resulted which they were unable to resume even after the weather had become drier.

The last rains of the season were received during the last week of September and did considerable damage to crops particularly Bajri in Amreli and Kadi, although they helped the cultivation and harvest of the cold weather crops.

The most note-worthy features of the year's season are the pre-monsoon storms in Kathiawar and parts of Kadi; the subsequent late establishment of the monsoon by about two weeks; the sequence of depressions bringing wide spread rain in the territory on more than two occasions and lack of sufficient break during currents for under-taking the necessary agricultural operations. To this must be added the phenomenal record of rain in Kodinar which reached a total of 90 inches i. e. highest in any part of the State, perhaps for any time, the highest in Navsari district for the year which is our high rain-fall tract being 82.10 in Palsana.

A precipitation of 21 and 33 inches for Okha and Beyt respectively are equally deserving of notice.

The season has given an increase of rain-fall from 25 to 50% over the decennial average and it is particularly opportune in Amreli and Kadi where the past lean years have caused the water level to shrink rapidly. The counter-part of such

a season agriculturally speaking is poor stand, stunted growth and lean harvests of the Kharif season. In black soil tracts, these conditions are to be seen in a more pronounced manner, to the extent of having un-sown fields on hand.

Rabi harvest is indicated by the late September rains and in the Kadi district, wheat, castor and sarsav are looking very promising. In Baroda and Amreli, the Kharif and the Rabi harvests taken together should prove one of the average capacity, the disadvantage of the wet season being counter-balanced by the particularly good Rabi prospects. In the light soil sections of Baroda and Kadi the emergence of the Katras must be made a note of as a serious prospective agent of damage to crops unless the season keeps it in check.

On the whole, the season could have been much worse than it actually turned out and should be particularly welcome in Kadi and Amreli. In Navsari and Baroda, it is the low cotton price that has hit the agriculturist more than the season owing to the preponderance of cotton in crop distribution of his holding and should teach a whole-some lesson for properly balancing crops grown. This has happened to a certain extent in the Navsari district. Rice and Jowar which are other crops of equal importance have done very well and to that extent compensated the poor stand of cotton. What is likely to hit the farmer most is the record depression in prices of cotton.

383. There was considerable activity during the year in connection with Agricultural Meetings and Conferences, the Director having attended the meeting of the Provincial Board of Agriculture, Bombay, at Poona in August 1925 and that of the Imperial Board of Agriculture at Pusa in the month of December. The All-India Cattle Conference formed a part of the Imperial Board of Agriculture meeting.

Meetings and Conferences.

In addition to these, the Revenue Conferences at Navsari Amreli and Baroda were attended, when the agricultural work of the season was discussed and the programme for the coming season was approved.

A joint conference of the agricultural staff of the department of Agriculture and the Co-operative department was held under the chairmanship of the Pragati Adhikari in April 1926, and the Agricultural work of the department was reviewed and an out-line of the programme for the next season was decided upon. Preparation of an agricultural Survey formed an essential part of the discussion and a note for guidance in this work was sent to all the Inspectors. A joint programme with the Co-operative staff was also drawn up.

384. During His Highness' visit to the Kadi district, His Highness visited the artesian water findings at Venpura and Adiwada. His Highness also visited the Baroda Farm in February 1926. During this visit His Highness directed that the work of the department should be submitted to Dr. Mann and his advice sought in opening up further opportunities for work in view of his broad experience. This has been done and suggestions of Dr. Mann have been received which will be fully drawn upon in submitting proposals to Government.

385. The out-standing features of the year's work may be considered to be (1) the successful working of the cotton sale societies which secured over Rs. 5,000 more to the 127 members than they might other-wise have done ; (2) the blasting of rocky wells by use of dynamite which explodes even under water by electrical apparatus; (3) extension of tractor cultivation in the cotton tract of the Navsari district; (4) reviving the Agricultural School by offering a Farmer's Training Course of about six months' duration.

New tapplings of artesian water still continue, one such being reported in an agriculturist's well at Bhatsar in Chanasma Taluka.

The possible limits of this artesian condition are engaging the attention of Government, they having appointed a committee to consider the artesian hydrographic conditions of the Kadi district.

386 The matter of fixing suitable rain-gauge centres for studying the rain-fall reports of the Bombay Presidency as a whole in collaboration with the Meteorological department of the Government of India, having been referred to the Baroda Government, twelve rain-gauge stations, three in each division, have been fixed in consultation with the Meteorological department of the Government of India, and the Director of Agriculture appointed as the Controlling Officer of these returns. Sanction to construct rain-gauge according to the printed instructions has been received and the work will commence after a preliminary visit to some reporting stations in British Gujarat.

387. The technical working of the department may conveniently be divided into three main sections:—

Working of the Department.

- (a) Agricultural.
- (b) Agricultural Engineering.
- (c) Veterinary.

(a) AGRICULTURAL

388. In the agricultural section are included the following activities:—

Activities of the Agricultural section.

- (a) Agricultural Farms.
- (b) Propaganda in the district.

389. The department has under its control two permanent agricultural stations, one at Baroda and the other at Jagudan in the Kadi district.

Agricultural stations.

A special farm at Dabhoi for demonstrating the best use of Wadhawana Tank water was sanctioned temporarily for two years and had been closed on the expiry of the period.

A farm at Amreli has long been sanctioned and was expected to be available for starting work in the next growing season but its opening has been delayed owing to unexpected impediments. The way is, however, now clear and it is hoped to have it ready for work in the next season

390. Principal crop work at the Baroda Farm is in connection with Cotton, Tobacco, Onions, and Bajri, manurial tests, rotation of crop series, May-sowing of cotton and late sowing of Bajri. Amongst new crops tried may be mentioned Pusa No. 52 and Sun-flower.

The use of 150 lbs. of bone-meal per acre for cotton has given as an average of five years' results an increase of 190 lbs. of seed cotton. An expenditure of about Rs. 10 for bone-meal has given an increase of 190 lbs. i. e. the cost of increase per maund of 40 lbs. is just a little over Rs. 2. Any price of cotton that is above this cost is, therefore, so much net profit over the investment. Results of other manurial treatments for cotton gave very inconclusive results owing to adverse rain-fall conditions and the interfering factor of loss owing to cotton wilt.

The method of sowing cotton in May in advance of the rains again proved its striking value in making the best use of rain-fall. During the year under report over 40 mds. of cotton was the yield per acre against the average of 658 lbs. for the Farm. It was sown six feet apart and received three waterings costing Rs 20-9-0. It is a practice worth while following more generally, since it gives an increase of 584 lbs. of seed cotton per acre over the best dry crop cotton yield on the Farm which was 1,074 lbs.

Amongst new crops, Pusa 52 gave good results and will be further tested next year.

The departmental Fordson Tractor, with dauntless cultivator and disc harrow gave a timely and indispensable service to the Farm in preparing a suitable seed bed in soils

which had gone foul owing to continuous wet weather. But for this timely aid, not only would the interculture of crops have suffered, thus adversely affecting crop yields, but the plots would not have been brought into condition so quickly that timely seeding may be possible.

A pit silo was filled between 10th and 16th October 1925, and over 300 mds. of green Sundhia was put in. It was opened on 12th April 1926 and gave 124 mds. of silage as actually fed to the stock. The percentage of silage to quantity put in, therefore, is a little over 40 percent which is unsatisfactory; of course a good deal depends upon what should be included in the silage weighed. The figure quoted here is the actual weight of feedable silage after knocking off unsuitable portions.

Considerable effort is being made in having a suitable horticultural section on the Farm. A collection of several types of grape vines and guavas have been planted as well as a patch of chikoos and lemon gooties. Figs have again cut a disappointing figure owing to lack of proper watching and skilled attention. A subsidiary plantation of Papayas is made in part of the area planted out, with suitable vegetable crops to utilise the land more fully. A moderate beginning in flower-culture is made by putting on odd pieces of roses.

391. The total expenditure including staff came to Rs. 14,042-10-11 and the income to Rs. 12,099-10-5. The total expenditure of farm contingencies alone came to Rs. 10,202-12-11.

392. The chief object of the Jagudan Farm is to demonstrate useful improved wheat as the crop forms one of the important cash crops of the Gorat part of the district. Pusa 12 has been found to be the best so far but is open to the objection of being a beardless type. The beard affords some protection from birds and pigs according to the popular view and Pusa 52 which has

the rust resistant character and is also bearded besides is being tried. Only a fair crop of wheat under irrigation was obtained the best being 1,216 lbs. per bigha i. e. about 2,063 lbs. per acre.

Wheat grown after green manuring has not proved economical in practice although higher yields are obtained, from the last few years' results.

Bajri is the staple crop of the tract. The sudden cessation of the rain and the demand for water by other crops like Jowar, Cotton, Chillies etc. made it impossible to give any watering to the Bajri area and it had to be allowed to do the best it can, according to the condition of the field and soil. This varied from 282 lbs. to 624 lbs. of Bajri per bigha or from 479 lbs. to 1,060 lbs. per acre. The range is wide enough and indicated what is possible if all fields are in proper condition of fertility. Its contrast with only 93 lbs of Bajri per acre on a field which has rather been neglected and represents ordinary farming practice over the greater part shows the wide variation between good and bad farming.

All other crops except Bajri had to be helped with watering and some crops like Jowar and Chillies had almost to be raised by watering. The average yield of Jowar came to only 416 lbs. per bigha or about 700 lbs. per acre.

Cotton is pre-eminently a crop of soils of a retentive texture. The farm soil being largely sandy is not the best medium for its growth but has irrigation facilities which in a way compensate in the yield though the quality is never of the standard type.

The Viramgam No. 4 selection of cotton was grown on the Farm and yielded about 510 lbs. of seed cotton per acre. But the ginning % was only 33 as against 38 to 39 in the Viramgam zone. This seed was also given for trial in other parts of the district but the season having turned out unsuccessful comparative results are un-available.

393. The Dabhoi Wadhawana Farm which had been run for two seasons by the department has now been given up. The working of the Farm has not been very satisfactory owing to various reasons, and as the point in connection with which it was started, (demonstrating the use of the Wadhawana Tank water) is partly attained, it was no longer necessary to keep it going for the present.

394. A campaign for the improvement of cotton in the Navsari district was carried on by distributing as large a quantity of improved seed as possible. During the year 1,71,000 lbs. of improved cotton seed was distributed, mainly in the Mangrol section through the co-operative societies, ginning factories and cotton sale societies. Even a larger quantity might have been distributed but for the supply having fallen short of the demand.

395. Another important activity was that of organizing joint sale of cotton raised from the best stock. The backward classes in the Kali Paraj area could hardly be expected to market their cotton to the best advantage even though grown from the best seed. Help was specially offered to these people in disposing off their cotton at a premium of Rs. 5 and with cash payment over the current market rate. This will ensure their growing cotton from good seed and in course of time to be able to form cotton sale society.

As a result of demonstrating the benefit of joint sale last season, two societies for cotton sale were formed last year and worked very satisfactorily during the year under report. The success of these societies has encouraged the formation of three others at Pipodra in Mangrol and Umrakh and Bagumra in Palsana. Even the limited working of the cotton sale societies indicated the need of a co-operative ginning factory, and the idea is being developed in a manner which will ensure both safety and service. The field of co-

operative marketing lies almost unexplored, not even a fringe having been touched so far and holds immense possibilities for benefitting agriculturists.

396. The other propaganda work in Navsari is concerning the extensive field tests of early
 Propaganda work in the Navsari district. Kolam, manuring of cane, cotton, Jowar, and onions, and ridge cultivation of cotton and power crushing of cane. The season, however, turned out to be a little unfavourable for rice and too short for the manurial tests to give striking results. Jowar almost failed to grain in many cases where planted late.

Ridge method of growing cotton was tried on a large scale at Antroli and was found to confer a striking advantage even in a season of comparative dryness, 100 to 150 lbs. of more cotton being collected from ridged area per acre over unridged. A demonstration of the method along with tractor cultivation was arranged during the year when Dr. Mann paid a special visit to witness the ridged cottons.

397. A Cattle Show at Vyara was arranged to take stock of the condition of the live stock in this
 Cattle Show at Vyara. back-ward part. The show was a complete success; over 200 entries having been registered for competition, filling all available stalls necessitating over-flow arrangements. The surprise of the Show was that the first prizes for utility and good appearance for the best pair of bullocks went to a Kali-paraj agriculturist.

Advantage of the opportunity was also taken in demonstrating to the people the method of castration by the Burdizzo method and its immense superiority over the usual cruel practice of mulling

The success of the Show is largely due to the interest of the Suba in the matter and to the indefatigable efforts of Mr. Naranji B. Desai, Vahiwardar of Vyara. The thanks of the department are due to these Revenue Officers, who made such a common cause with this department in creating a favourable atmosphere for agricultural improvements.

398. Propaganda work in the Baroda district was centered round the two important crops, tobacco and cotton. Regarding the work of finding an effective and economic substitute for Farm Yard Manure for tobacco, which has become very expensive, it was found in the field tests at Dharmaj that an increase in the number of bundles varying from 50 to 240 per bigha resulted. The reducing of Farm Yard Manure into half the usual quantity and its substitution by 200 lbs. of Sodium nitrate per bigha has also yielded an increase of produce which more than counter-balanced the expenditure for the fertilizer. There is every hope that within a short time the practice of supplementing tobacco by Sodium nitrate would be more generally followed to the economic advantage of the farmers.

The Tobacco Breeder at Nadiad has fixed a type of tobacco, going by the name of No. 6 strain and field tests of the strain were in view at Rambhwel near Boriawi. The leading tobacco cultivators of Dharmaj were taken to this place to see the demonstration of this new strain and they were all so struck with it, that orders were booked for its trial at Bhadran, Dharmaj and Pellad.

The success attending the distribution of improved cotton seed south of the Narbudda in the Navsari district is well known. Similar efforts for areas on the north of the Narbudda depend on a suitable strain for Kahnām area being found. Several probable strains have been tried without indicating striking improvement until 91 was tried last year. This strain was grown as a field test at Sarar and has been pronounced satisfactory by the cultivators, who have reserved greater part of the seed for further extensive tests next season.

399. An abnormal season is always an up-setting factor in the propaganda work of a district which is laid out in expectation of fair monsoon. This was the case in the Kadi district during the year. It was particularly disappoint-

ing in view of the vigorous campaign arranged for steeping of Jowar, as Jowar is one of the important crops in this part. Over a thousand cultivators in several Talukas and seventy four villages were approached and over 1,800 packets of copper sulphate distributed. An intensive campaign in Patan was specially undertaken but the season turned out to be such that much of the Jowar could hardly come to head.

The results of the Viramgam selection of cotton distributed at Visnagar, Jagudan, Kheralu, and Chanasma were hardly more satisfactory.

Pusa wheat is gradually spreading in the district from farmer to farmer and always demonstrates its rust resistance wherever there is an attack of this disease on wheat, as was the case in Kheralu, during the season under report.

400. The story of disappointment consequent on a defective rain-fall holds true in this district also for the season under consideration.

Work in the Amreli district.

A season that gave a promise of better than a sixteen anna crop suddenly turned into one of dismal crop harvest for lack of one good rain at the nick of time. A succession of four deficient rainfall seasons seriously affected the water capacity of wells and a general water scarcity was experienced. Much departmental help was given in the dynamiting of wells in replenishing their supply.

Green manuring of Sann was recommended for cane in Kodinar and has given satisfactory results. The isolated position of Kodinar makes it difficult to carry out an all round well sustained agricultural programme although it is a place where opportunity for work is of the best.

401. Leaflets dealing with following subjects were printed and are available for free distribution :—

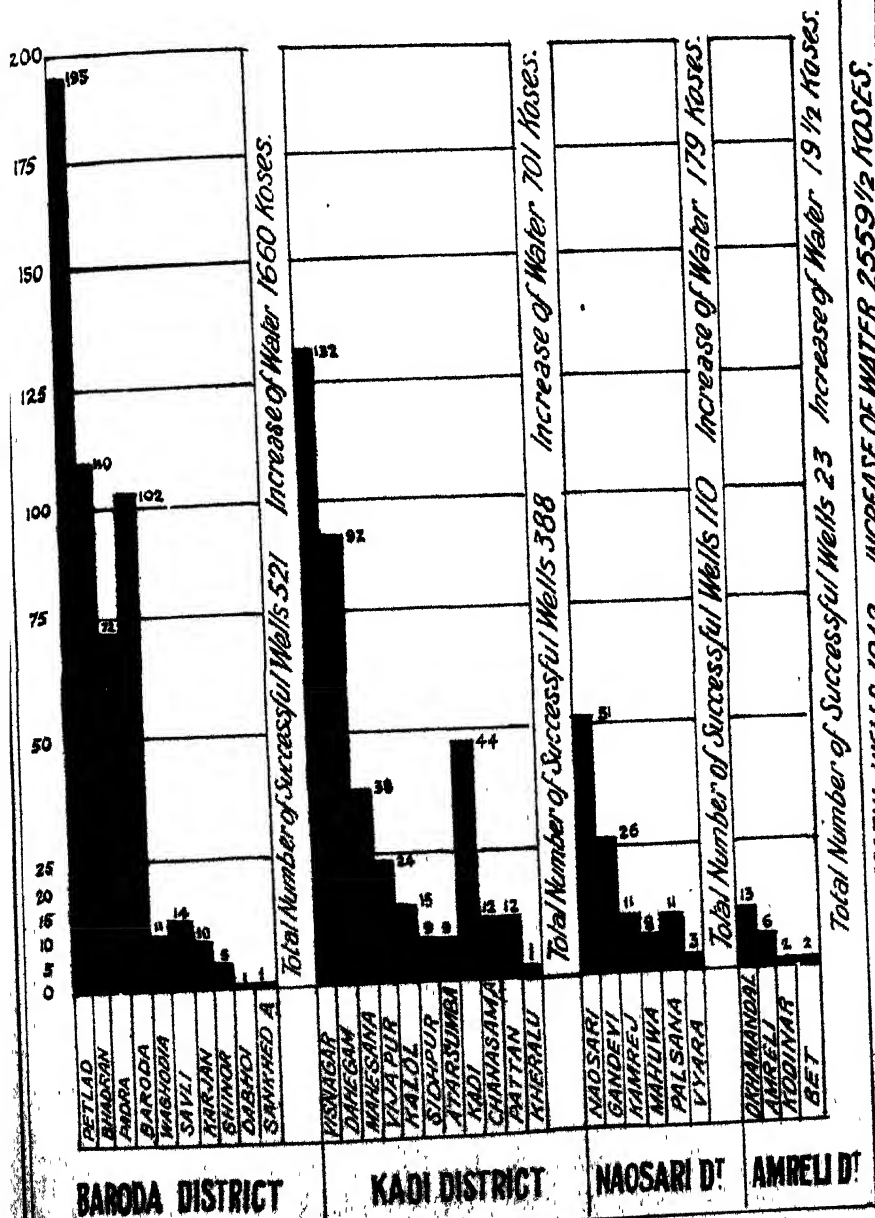
Leaflets,

- (1) Smut in Jowar.
- (2) Manure for sugar-cane.
- (3) Manure for onions.

TOTAL NUMBER OF SUCCESSFUL WELLS DURED IN EACH TALUKA

FROM

1911-12 TO 1925-26



- (4) Early rice (Kolam).
- (5) Poona furnace for Gul making.
- (6) Ground-nut.
- (7) Cabbage cultivation.

(b) AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING

402. The department has 19 hand power sets of the Machinery on hand. Cawnpore type, 2 power machines of Musto type and two Calyx drills also power driven.

Out of the above, 14 Cawnpore sets were in work as follows :—

- 9 in Kadi,
- 3 in Baroda and
- 2 in the Navsari district.

One Calyx drill worked for Baroda and Navsari and the other in Kadi and the Musto patents in Amreli and Kadi.

403. As is common to all dry years, there was considerable demand for boring. demand for departmental help for boring operations and work was commenced in October and in Amreli even from August onwards.

The total number of applications received during the year was 111 and with 24 on hand from the last year, the total came to 135. Out of the above total, 106 wells were taken with the following results, 71 were successful, 18 abandoned at the request of the applicants, 10 left incomplete including 3 in progress and 7 unsuccessful.

The increase of water in successful wells came to a total increase of 123 Koses and total depth bored was 6,694 feet.

Two more artesian flows were added to the previous tappings, one at Bhatsar and one at Manupur both in the Chanasma Taluka.

404. A new departure was made during the year under report in the handling of wells with rocky bottoms.
- A new departure in blasting of rocky wells.

The dynamiting of such strata was, therefore, first tried at Chapaner in Savli Taluka and seeing its utility as a rock opener, the same was offered for trial when Amreli seemed in sore need of replenishing its fast failing water capacity of wells. As a result, altogether 51 wells were taken of which 45 were from the Amreli district.

The total depth sunk with the aid of this highly explosive substance was 230 feet increasing the water capacity in 32 wells. Special rates below cost necessitating writing off of loss were sanctioned by Government for the Amreli agriculturists in view of the help-less condition of the cultivators and was well availed off by the people.

405. A large number of tractors were bought during the year particularly in the southern cotton tract i.e., in the Navsari district. The total number of tractor owners in the State is 39 as far as could be ascertained by enquiries. Most of these found the help of the Agricultural Engineer very handy, but for whose services the tractors would not have proved the success they have in Baroda State.
- Tractor work.

406. A Tractor and Oil Engine Class was opened on the Baroda Farm and had 43 students for training. It is the only class of its kind if not in India at least on this side of the country and is being made use of in an increasing manner. It helps those who want to buy the power plants and helps in preparing a class of operators who also seem in good demand.
- Oil Engine and Tractor Class.

407. Nine applications for Tagavi advances were received for opinion, four being for tractors and five for oil engines and pump installation.
- Tagavi advances.

Three tractor loans aggregating to a total of Rs. 21,000 and all pump installations aggregating to Rs. 26,000 were recommended. The sums are advanced by the Revenue department and confirmation of Rs. 34,000 having been so advanced has been received.

408. His Highness the Maharaja Saheb during his visit to an artesian flow at Venpura and Adiwada when in camp at Bechrabi gave His Highness' visit and instructions. instructions for preserving the bored strata carefully and systematically. His Highness the Maharaja Saheb also directed in view of the general request by the leading agriculturists that the department should investigate the possibility of sinking an artesian bore of sufficient size and capacity so as to furnish sufficient volume for an irrigation project and arrange for the provision of a suitable plant and machinery, if necessary, and the question is receiving attention of the Agricultural Engineer.

(c) VETERINARY

409. In accordance with Government orders the management of the Veterinary dispensaries has been entrusted to the respective Panchayats, which are asked to make necessary provision of funds in their budget, the Government contributing its quota in a lump sum. It was intended that the Veterinary Committee nominated by Government for the purpose would be able to do the necessary executive work in connection with the administration of the dispensary, but the experience of the actual working of the year under report has not been very encouraging.

410. The total number of dispensaries remained the same as in the last year, i.e. 13 and were distributed as follows :—
 Number and distribution of Veterinary dispensaries.

Five in the Baroda district at Petlad, Bhadrán, Sankheda Dabhoi and Baroda; four in Navsari at Vyara,

Kathore, Vesma and Karchelia; and four in Kadi at Mehsana Pattan, Sidhpur and Vijapur.

411. Considerable effort was made in popularizing the new method of castration known as the Burdizzo method.
- Castration by Burdizzo method.

Karchelia Veterinary Surgeon alone could obtain the necessary response from the people so far, he having castrated 40 animals in that manner. There is every reason to hope, however, that the number will be considerably augmented when all the dispensaries are supplied with the castrators.

412. The importance of incapacitating undesirable males from impairing the breed is too well known and obvious to need any discussion. Mr. Vasawada launched an effort to accomplish this at Dabhoi through the good will of some of the gentry of Dabhoi, but when the work was actually started, there was a slight commotion and the work had to be postponed to more favourable conditions.
- Castration of undesirable animals pre-requisite for good breeding.

413. The question of horse breeding has received the attention of Government from time to time and the best way of doing this has been considered to be the provision of good Stallions. A survey of Dabhoi for services of a Stallion was made by Mr. Vasawada and it was found that there was opportunity here for one. The matter is receiving the attention of the Panchayat.
- Horse breeding.

The broader question of horse breeding is under consideration also and recommendations would be made to Government after a workable scheme has been prepared.

414. The total expenditure of the department came to Rs. 84,321-3-9 against Rs 1,29,281-7-1 for the previous year. The receipts
- Finances.

totalled Rs. 25,152-0-9 against Rs. 56,403-11-3 of the last year. The following table gives the figures separately for the different sections :—

No.	Item.	Expenditure.	Income as net or contribution.
1	2	3	4
1	Head Office	19,497-12- 3	7,606- 8- 1
2	Agricultural Engineering includ- ing Boring	19,993- 9-11	2,566-10- 2
3	Agricultural Farms	21,675-15-10	14,785- 1- 9
4	Propaganda	11,355-13- 9	0- 6- 6
5	Veterinary relief.	11,800- 0- 0	193- 6- 3
	Total...	84,312- 3- 9	25,152- 0- 9

B. Commerce and other Industries

(a) INDUSTRIES

415. The Industrial depression that has been prevailing all over the Bombay Presidency continued during the year under report. No new industries were, therefore, promoted. However, all the old industries continued in a fairly good condition.

416. The main activities of the department were concentrated on the development of Port Okha in the Okhamandal Taluka in Kathiawar. The Sayaji Pier that was under construction during the last three years was completed in December 1925 and was formally declared open by His Highness the Maharaja Saheb on 15th February 1926. A Harbour Board was created and the Director of Commerce and Industry was appointed as its Member and Secretary. The main work for the development of the Port may be divided under the following heads:—

- (I) Determination of the constitution and the powers of the Harbour Board.

- (II) Settlement of the Port and Wharf dues, warehousing charges, etc.
- (III) Drafting of the Rules and Regulations of the Port such as Rules for Bonded Warehouses, etc.
- (IV) Equipment of the Port for the speedy handling of the cargo.
- (V) Canvassing for traffic.
- (VI) Town planning.
- (VII) Arrangement with Steamer Companies both coastal and foreign for their boats to call at Port Okha regularly.
- (VIII) Provision of various facilities to the merchants in the State, of Banking, Insurance, Warehousing, etc.
- (IX) Readjustment of Railway freight rates to suit the geographical position of the Port and their publication for the information of the public.

In fact, everything that was necessary for the development of this Port in the initial stages was done and it is gratifying to note that the labours are showing fruits in spite of very acute competition from other ports. The story of this progress will be recorded in the next year's report since traffic began to move early this year.

417. The Director of Commerce worked as a Member of the Indian Central Cotton Committee and its local sub-committee, Finance Committee, Railway Stores Purchase Committee, Railway Advisory Board, Land Mortgage Bank Committee, Kala Bhavan, Advisory Committee, Cattle and Fodder Preservation Committee, Okha Harbour Board and Committee for selection of Industrial Sites, Committee for the Acquisition of Land for Industries, and the Baroda State Legislative Council.

418. In spite of the help from the Department and in spite of the good future prospects for the Chemical and allied Industry. industry, the shareholders, took the Modern Chemical Works into liquidation but it is bought by a local financier and is being reorganised.

Negotiations are in progress with Mr. Kapilram H. Vakil of Bombay to take up the manufacture of salt and alkali in Okhamandal and it is expected some definite and good result would ensue before long. At the date of writing this report concessions for the working of the deposits were granted to Mr. Vakil and he had organised a Joint Stock Company to develop the Industry.

419. The Dwarka Cement Factory had ceased working last year. The factory subsequently was Cement and allied Industries. taken into liquidation and the debenture holders got possession of it. Arrangements were made to sell the factory to a reliable firm experienced in this line but in the absence of a buyer the Baroda Government were obliged to buy it up against their Debenture holdings. Efforts are being made to work it in co-operation with business firms experienced in this line.

420. There were 10 applications for various kinds of concessions under Section 15 of the Development Rules. The previous year's Applications under the Development Rules. balance was 4. Of these 14 applications, four were sanctioned with modifications, seven were rejected, and three were pending disposal at the end of the year. The concessions granted consisted of (1) extension of the preliminary period of concessions already granted; and (2) exemption from local octroi duties or terminal tax by fixing a lump sum to be paid annually.

There was one application for a loan of Rs. 5,000 from Mr. Maneklal Tribhovandas of Baroda for his hand-loom factory and the same was granted.

421. There were two applications for acquisition of land for factories under the special Rules. Acquisition of land. One was sanctioned and the other is pending.

422. The application pending last year for a loan of Rs.5,000 was sanctioned. No fresh application was received during the year.

Building loans.

423. Transplantation was not done this year but oyster beds off Balapur were inspected. The condition of the oysters was found satisfactory. It appears that in spite of transplantation on a large scale last year the beds lacked formation of sufficient pearls. All other beds were in good condition and Government derived from this source a revenue of Rs. 25,001 exclusive of Shank rentals. Kotda creek was again very carefully examined but the inspection confirmed that the possibilities of window pane oyster beds there were very remote.

Okha Pearl Fishery.

424. Sheth Dorabji having declined to start fish-canning industry at Velan, attempts are being made to induce fishermen to establish themselves permanently at Velan. But so far the efforts have been fruitless.

Fish-canning at Velan.

425. Prof. Shevade submitted his report about the Botanical survey of Amreli and Okha-mandal. In his report he has offered helpful suggestions for Okha afforestation. His report was submitted to Government and orders were obtained to complete the survey.

Botanical Survey.

426. Demonstrations of the working of the improved Fly-shuttle Pit as well as Frame looms were given at Dwarka, Varwala and Kalyan-pura in Okha and also at Naosari.

Hand Loom Demonstration.

The Class at Dwarka was continued for six months in the beginning of the year, but the local weavers of Dwarka practically took no advantage of it, as they have left off their hereditary occupation of weaving and joined the ranks of ordinary day labourers. However, a number of students from the local schools including some Vagher boys from the Vagher boarding learnt practical hand loom weaving in this demonstration class.

The class at Varvala was successful in impressing upon the mind of the local weavers the utility and advantages of the Fly-shuttle loom and they have willingly introduced them in their own houses. The weavers of Kalyanpur having been impressed with the work done at the demonstration class at Varvala asked for a loom for trial which was given to them. Ultimately they introduced some Fly-shuttle Pit looms. The class at Varvala was closed during the later part of the year.

During the middle of the year, the class at Dwarka was transferred to Naosari, where, besides the Fly-shuttle looms, work of dobby weaving for fancy borders in Saries is being demonstrated.

Many a weaver of Naosari, Gandevi and Dabhel visits the class at Naosari and takes a keen interest in the working of the Dobby on Fly-shuttle looms. There was formerly a class at Dabhel, and almost all weavers have introduced the Fly-shuttle sleys, but they are now occasionally visiting the Naosari class to see if they could make any improvements in their weave. Since the class commenced work at Naosari, efforts are being made to introduce Fly-shuttle sleys and dobbies, and a number of weavers at Gandevi and Naosari have already ordered out these improved implements and are actually working them. Weavers of Dhamdachha were also approached and a weaver there has applied for a Fly-shuttle loom just for a trial.

427. With a view to introduce power loom weaving as a cottage industry among the Khatri weavers of Naosari, it was intended to order out a power loom and work it in the class by electric power. But a Khatri weaver named Mr. Hargovind Gangaram, expressed his willingness to take up the work himself. A power loom with a 16 shaft dobby and the necessary electric motor is ordered out for him at his cost and the loom is expected to arrive at Naosari in August 1926. It is also intended to demonstrate next year, sizing and other preparatory machines necessary for power loom weaving.

Power loom weaving
as a Cottage Industry.

(b) BOILER AND FACTORY INSPECTION

428. *Boiler Inspection* :—The number of private factories using steam boilers was 227 as against Private Factories. 220 in the preceding year, while the number of boilers was 298 as against 281 in the preceding year. Of these boilers, 193 were in use. The following table shows the total number of boilers on register in the last two years :—

Year.	Number of Boilers on Register.	To be deducted.			Private Boilers.	Private Boilers			Remarks.
		Govern-ment Boilers.	Removed or discontinued.	Total.		Working.	Idle.	Total.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1924-25...	421	10	130	140	281	198	83	281	
1925-26...	439	10	131	141	298	193	105	298	

429. There was no prosecution under the Boiler Act nor was there any Boiler explosion.

Accidents and Prosecutions.

430. The number of factories, subject to control under the Factories Act, was 127 as against 137 in the previous year. The total number of operatives employed in these factories was 17,238 as against 16,404 in the preceding year and of these 14,545 were employed in the Cotton Industry as against 14,288 in the previous year. The number of persons in factories other than those connected with cotton was 2,693 as against 2,116 in the previous year.

There were 3,277 women and 1,729 children at work as against 3,069 and 1,556 respectively last year.

All the perennial factories were inspected more than four times, and the seasonal once except in few cases twice or more. Arrangements regarding sanitation, light, ventilation in the factories and water supply were fairly good. Schools and dispensaries have been maintained by almost all the mills.

431. The number of accidents amounted to 39 as against 62 last year, out of which 31 were minor, 6 serious and 2 fatal. There were 29 accidents in the Railway Work-shops as against 42 last year.

There were no prosecutions for violation or infringement of the provisions of the Factory Act. The new Factory Act is under the consideration of Government.

432. Despite the deplorable depression in trade and industry the "humanising of industry" is still advancing and taking various forms in the State suitable for the workers in the State. The movement generally traces its origin in the large industries but even a small factory like Sayaji Iron Works does a good deal for its employees. From all parts one hears reports of the

Welfare work.

provision of facilities for picnics, dinners, for education, not necessarily vocational in character, and for investment of savings. Much, however, remains to be done by way of social welfare work among factory operatives.

433. During the year no new application under Electricity Act was received. The projects for Kadi, Amreli, Petlad and Pattan are still under the consideration of private parties.

434. The draft of the revised Electricity Act has been approved by the Legal Remembrancer and is submitted to Government for sanction.

(c) JOINT STOCK COMPANIES AND BENEVOLENT SOCIETIES

435. In the beginning of the year, there were 89 companies on the Register while 2 new companies were registered during the year, making a total of 91 companies. Of these, 3 companies were cancelled thus leaving 88 companies on the Register at the end of the year. Of these, 87 are public companies including one with unlimited liability while the remaining one is private.

436. The new companies may be classified as under:—
Classification of new Companies.

I. Banking, Loan and Insurance:—				
(b) Insurance	...	...	...	1
III. Trading and Manufacturing:—				
(b) Printing, Publishing and Stationery				1
Total				2

Of these 88 companies on the Register, 7 companies went into liquidation.

437. The following table gives a comparative statement of the authorised, subscribed and paid-up capital of the companies:—

At the end of the year.	No. of Companies on the Register.	Capital Rs.		
		Authorised.	Subscribed.	Paid-up.
1	2	3	4	5
1924-25	89	9,55,28,000	4,99,69,415	3,71,68,364
1925-26	88	7,82,60,150	4,30,30,540	3,37,59,849
(Net increase or decrease during the year) ...	-1	-1,72,67,850	-69,38,875	-34,08,515

This appreciable decrease in capital is due to the fact that the Tata Construction Co., Ltd., reduced its authorised capital from Rs. 2 crores to Rs. 23,81,520 and paid-up capital to Rs. 20,73,760 from Rs. 58,07,719. Three companies were cancelled during the year.

438. There were 15 prosecutions during the year under the Companies Act for not filing the Balance sheets, Annual Returns of Accounts, etc., in time for registration while 7 cases were pending at the close of the previous year. Of these 22 prosecutions, in 8 cases the parties concerned were fined. Two cases were withdrawn, while 12 cases were pending before the court at the end of the year.

439. At the close of the last year there were 17 permanent auditors on the register. During the year two more permanent certificates were given.

440. 26 societies were registered under the Benevolent Societies Act at the end of the previous year. 1 new society was registered during the year. Of these, 16 are caste

institutions, 2 are for the promotion of industry among women, 3 for encouragement of education and prevention of child marriages, 2 for procuring land and estate for Christian parsonages, Mission premises, Medical Homes, etc., 2 are Homes for the Destitute, while one is for the protection of old and unserviceable domestic animals and one for establishing a Boarding House at Dabhoi.

(d) PRESS AND STATIONERY

441. The new State Press has now been in existence for two years and four months and the experience shows that it is more profitable for the Government to have a press of its own both for the quality and quantity of work, than to get the work done under a contract system. All printing work for the State, including the Gaekwar's Baroda State Railways, was done at the State Press throughout the year.

442. During the year 26,112½ foolscap pages were set in type. The total number of impressions on the machines came to 2,53,44,657 and the number of books bound in various styles came to 3,88,323. Minor binding operations such as numbering, perforating, envelope-making, etc., amounted to 1,55,07,653. The number of Rubber-stamps made was 262 and the number of Die-stamp impressions at the Press during the year was 35,763. The total output in various sections of the Press as compared with that for the preceding year is shown below:—

Description of work.	Total number in 1925-26	Total number in 1924-25.
Number of foolscap pages set ...	25,099½	19,800½
Number of Impressions	2,53,44,657	1 38,48,022
Books bound... ..	3,88,323	2,91,800
Numbering, perforating and envelope-making	1,55,07,653	30,68,139
Rubber-stamps	262	108
Die-stamp impressions	35,763	29,454

The number of employees in the works was 181 against 146 in the previous year and the monthly wages bills for the work came to Rs. 3,346-8-0 with supervision charges amounting to Rs. 1,100-0-0 against Rs. 3,040,-0-0 and Rs. 850-0-0 respectively in the preceding year.

443. The work of casting new types for use at the Press was practically finished during the year.
 Type Foundry. Now the foundry will be worked mostly to replace worn out types. The total weight of types and type setting accessories cast during the year came to 257 Cwts. and 40 lbs.

444. The total cost of work done in the Press amounts to Rs. 1,79,523-4-9 as against Rs. 1,17,034-4-0 in the preceding year.
 Cost of work done in the Press.

445. A scheme for opening a Stationery Store in the State Press premises for the supply of stationery articles to the City offices was submitted to the Government but the proposals were returned pending the report of the Accountant General who has been asked to resubmit the question to the Government after making necessary inquiries as regards the working of similar arrangements in the Bombay Presidency.
 Scheme for opening stationery stores.

446. His Highness the Maharaja Saheb visited the State Press on the 24th November 1925 and was pleased to order that as the then existing rules for printing and stationery were incomplete in certain respects, they should be revised and brought up-to-date. Accordingly, the rules were revised and the new rules for the internal organisation of the works were drafted and they have now been finally sanctioned by the Government.
 Visit of His Highness.

447. This year Mr. Mahadeo Janardhan Damle secured the contract for supply of stationery articles to all the Government offices in
 Stationery Contract.

the City at a discount of 28½%. Total bills for the stationery articles purchased from him approximately amount to Rs. 71,577 at original rates.

(e) COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE

448. A good number of Commercial periodicals, bulletins and catalogues, as usual, were received and kept in the reading room of the Information Bureau. Information Bureau to which the public has free access and their suggestions are invited. More than 80 persons availed of the facilities. A catalogue of all the books in the Commerce Department Library has been prepared and will be soon published.

449. The department with a view to encourage the local arts and crafts maintains a small sales depot at the Baroda Museum under the supervision of the Curator. The Curator has been requested to keep the articles in some prominent place in the Museum so as to attract the attention of the public.

450. The following work of Statistical nature was done:—

Publications.

- (1) The twentieth issue of the Statistical Abstract of the State for the year 1923-24 was published and the same for the year 1924-25 was compiled and sent to the Press.
- (2) Rail-borne Trade Statistics received from the various Railway Companies were compiled and a summary was incorporated in the Abstract.

C. Co-operation

451. The Co-operative Credit Societies Act was passed in the State in 1905, soon after the enactment of a similar law in British India in 1904. This act provided for the organization of Credit Societies only. It was amended in 1912 and the new act now permits all sorts of co-operative activities intended for

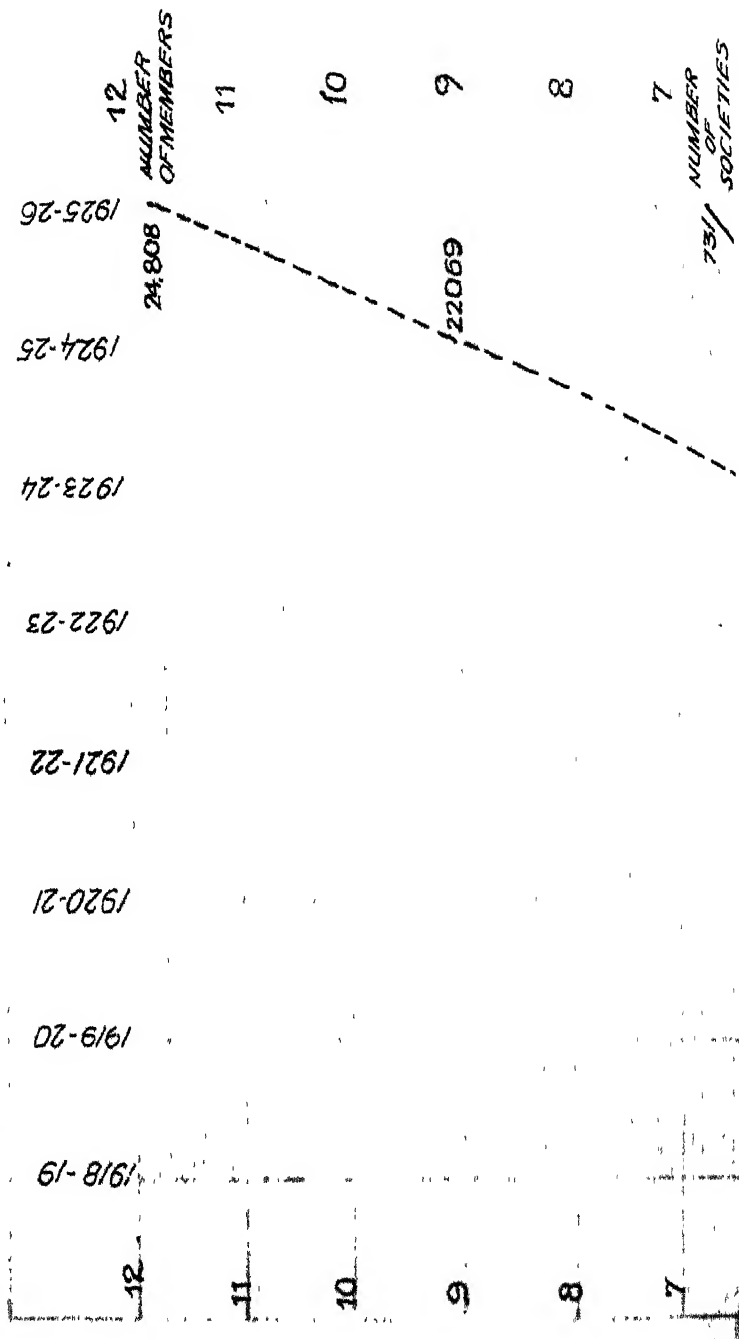
the moral and economic benefit of the members. The act is primarily intended for the benefit of small agriculturists and artisans.

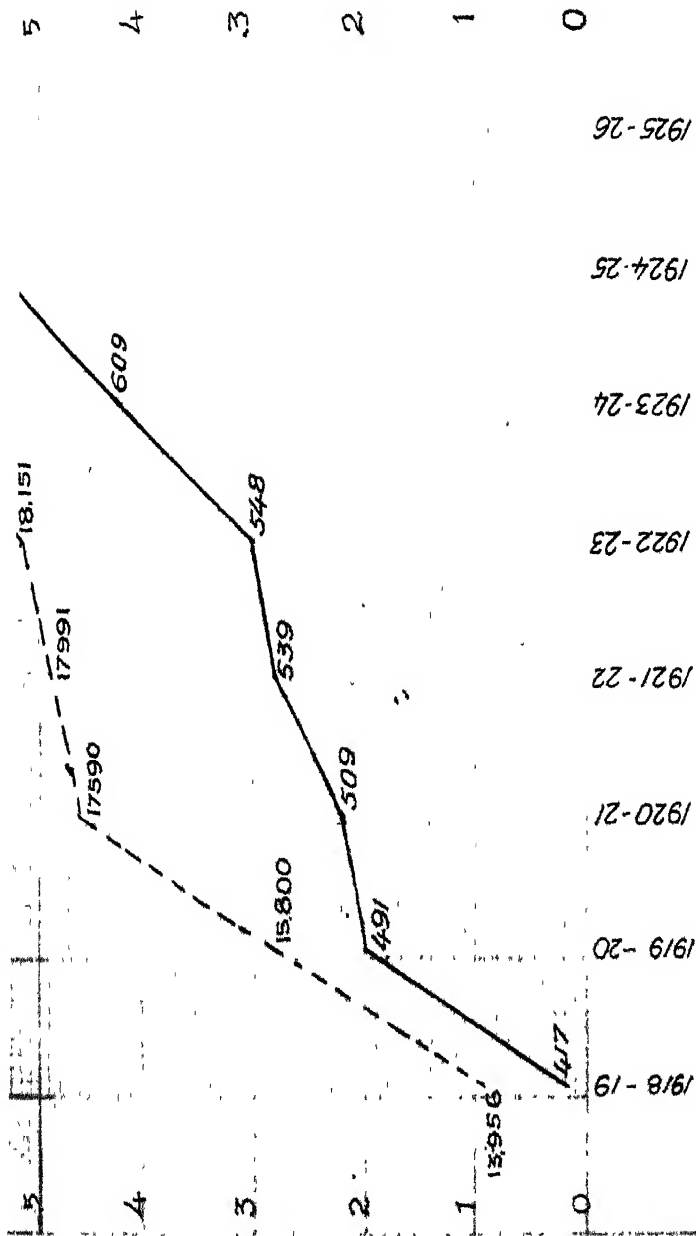
452. Thirty two societies were cancelled and ninety four new Co-operative Societies were registered during the year; thus there was a net increase of sixty two societies, bringing the total number of societies to 731 at the end of the year under report. Three of these institutions were Central Banks, two Banking Unions, 61 Agricultural Credit, 47 Agricultural non-credit, 63 Non-agricultural Credit and 5 Non-agricultural Non-credit societies.

453. The total number of membership rose from 22,069 to 24,808 and the reserve and other similar funds from Rs. 4,75,849 to Rs. 5,43,218 and the working capital from Rs. 32,32,578 to Rs. 37,97,609 during the year under report. The net profits for the year were Rs 96,400 against Rs. 88,259 in the preceding year. The deposits held by the societies rose from Rs. 19,06,434 to Rs. 20,85,689. The average membership per society was 34 against 32.9 in the preceding year; and the working capital per society and per member was Rs. 5,195 and Rs. 153.1 against Rs. 4,832 and Rs. 146.7 in the previous year. The total amount of loans advanced during the year was Rs. 26,03,367 against Rs. 19,08,834 in the previous year. Overdue loans of the societies amounted to Rs. 2,84,627 against Rs. 2,44,524 in the previous year.

454. The Baroda Central Co-operative Bank continued to do useful work as usual. It advanced loans to the societies affiliated to it in the Baroda district to the extent of Rs. 3,92,563 against Rs. 2,08,816 in the preceding year. The Navsari Co-operative Banking Union also has made good progress during the year under report. It financed co-operative societies to the extent of Rs. 1,24,600 against Rs. 63,175 in the preceding year. The Kodinar Co-operative Banking Union maintained its high standard of work and continued to show great interest in agricultural improvements.

CHART SHOWING the PROGRESS of the COOPERATIVE MOVEMENT in NUMBER of SOCIETIES and MEMBERSHIP.





Each square with a straight line and figures denoting the Number of Co-operative Societies represents fifty Members represents a thousand.

455. There were four Agricultural Banks (Pedhis) in the State as in the previous year. The Agricultural Banks. Bhadran Pedhi showed good progress during the year. The Amreli Pedhi continued to do fairly good work, and recovered some of the old out-standing loans due from the individual Khatedars. The Songhad Pedhi confined its activity only to the recovery of past arrears of loans. The working of the Vyara Agricultural Bank (Pedhi) was satisfactory. It commanded good credit and attracted deposits during the year to the extent of Rs. 61,594.

456. At the end of the year there were 658 Agricultural Societies in the State distributed as under:—
Number of Agricultural Societies.

District.	1923-24	1924-25	1925-26
Baroda.	274	276	279
Kadi.	93	111	134
Navsari.	79	94	120
Amreli.	101	120	125
Total...	547	601	658

457. Of the 658 Agricultural Societies, the number of non-credit societies was 47, the rest (611) being credit societies. They comprised two milk supplying societies of Nizam-pura and Sayajipura, one irrigation society, one water works society of Sarar, 14 co-operative supply societies, 1 tractor society, 3 cotton sale societies, 20 fodder storage societies, one grain storage society and 4 consolidation of scattered holdings societies. Three co-operative cotton sale societies were organised during the year. Two of these societies sold cotton worth Rs. 1,65,580. The co-operative supply society at Vyara organised during the

year for the Kali Paraj people commenced its work and supplied cotton seeds, Guwar and cloth worth Rs. 3,226 to its members.

458. The number of non-agricultural societies rose from 63 to 68, of which 63 were credit societies. Of these, there were 18 urban societies, 34 weavers', 8 Chamars', 1 Nai and 2 Antyajas'; besides these, there were 4 co-operative stores and one Central Co-operative Institute.

459. There were in all 18 urban societies working during the year. Out of these, 8 were in the Urban Banks & Societies. Baroda City and four in the Baroda district, one at Navsari, one at Mehsana, one at Unja and 3 at Amreli. Of the eight societies of the Baroda city, the progress of the Anyoanya Sahakari Mandali was very satisfactory. The Vaso Co-operative Bank recorded, as usual, healthy progress.

460. The Co-operative Store at Baroda dealt in goods in general. The total sales amounted to Rs. 24,800. The Pustakalaya Sahakari Mandal, though of recent origin worked very satisfactorily. Its sales amounted to Rs. 23,238 during the year. It is rapidly progressing from year to year.

461. His Highness' Government was pleased some year ago to sanction Rs. 50,000 as deposit for a period of ten years at a low rate of interest to the Bhadran Agricultural Bank as well as to the Mehsana Central Co-operative Bank over and above Rs. 1,00,000 given to the Baroda Central Co-operative Bank for liquidation of old debts of the members of societies. By the end of the year the Baroda Central Co-operative Bank had advanced the whole sum; while the Bhadran Agricultural Bank sanctioned Rs. 33,875 to the Co-operative Societies for the redemption of old debts of their members.

462. The Co-operative Conferences of the Societies of Vyara, Gandevi, Mahuwa and Navsari Talukas were held at Vyara and Gandevi during the year under report, where Conferences and Training classes.

several subjects pertaining to practical working of the societies were discussed. Two Training Classes were held, one at Vyara in the Navsari district and the other at Amreli for imparting training to the Secretaries and other members of the co-operative societies. It was arranged to give instruction in the theory and general principles of co-operation as well as in accounts and practical working of the co-operative societies.

463. A further attempt at consolidation of scattered
 Consolidation of Agricultural holdings. Agricultural holdings through the co-operative society of Tatarpura village of the Baroda district was made during the year. This consolidation has been made with the entire consent of the members of the society by voluntary exchanges of their fields. The total number of blocks of these fields before consolidation was 47, which as the result of consolidation was reduced to 43.

464. During the year, four thrift societies of the Kaliparaj
 Special features of the year. women in the Vyara Taluka of the Navsari district and one water works society of Sarar in the Baroda district were organised. The members of the thrift societies are provided with boxes to put in their daily savings from their daily wages. These boxes are opened on a fixed date in every month in the presence of the Kaliparaj Organiser. These savings are deposited with the society. The savings deposits of the poor women of these four thrift societies amounted to Rs. 247 during the year under report. The Sarar water works society has been successful in its object of supplying better and cheaper water facilities for drinking and other domestic purposes to the people of all classes in the village. Besides the thrift and the water works societies, an Institute of the type of the Bombay Central Co-operative Institute has been organised for further development of the Co-operative Movement in the State.

D. Forests

465. Prior to the year 1877, from which dates the institution of a regular Forest department in the State, the jungle-clad areas were worked on the 'Ijara' or contract system. This led to very heavy and irregular fellings of trees. From 1877 to 1890 in place of the Ijara system exploitations were permitted to contractors on the permit system by which they could remove whatever kind and size of trees they liked on payment of a fixed fee per khandi. The depletion and serious damage to forests was thus aggravated, protection against thefts and mischiefs was nominal, and fire-conservancy was an unknown factor. In 1894, some important improvements, especially as regards the constitution and settlement of forest areas, and the preparation and publication of a Forest Act and a set of rules were effected.

466. The forests which are to be permanently maintained as such are entitled 'Reserved' forests, and the rest of the area is called 'Unreserved' forests. The intermediate class of 'Protected' forests is not recognised in Baroda, so that the whole of the non-reserved area is left open to such cultivation as is possible.

The changes in the forest area during the year were as follows:—

Class of Forests.	Area on 1st August 1925.	Area added during the year.	Excluded during the year.	Area on 31st July 1926.
Reserved.	7,42,751	306-11	23,923-11	7,19,134

467. The vast area in Okhamandal Range in Kathiawad comprising bare and barren "Runns" or salt-wastes and other rock-hill-lands which were given over by the Revenue department to the Forest department along with few other suitable areas, upon

Vast area of Okhamandal Range was handed back to the Revenue department during the year.

the representation of the Conservator, were handed back during the year.

468. It may be noted that no selection of lands was made

Out of 45,088 bighas originally taken from the Revenue department, 22,547 bighas were parted back.

as it was not considered worth-while to waste time over it, but what the Revenue department chose to give out of the enormous revenue waste lands, was simply taken over at the commencement, but when the Forest department undertook reboisement work, the utter unsuitability of the major portion of the lands was detected and the Government were approached to direct the Revenue department to take what was not required and allow the Conservator instead, to select more suitable lands. In this manner, out of 45,088 bighas originally taken 22,547 bighas were returned by the Forest department, while 3,115 bighas have been picked out in concurrence with the Revenue department and are to be put under forest conservancy in bits and gradually as the needs arise.

469. In the Gir Range of the Amreli district, 269 bighas

Disforestation in the Gir Range and the lands disforested in the Nessu portion were designated as "Sayajigaon".

were disforested for purpose of cultivation under Government orders. The disforestation of 1,202 bighas at Chitpur in the Nessu Forest region on the bank of the Tapti and the allotment of the cleared lands to the Kaliparaj people or the jungle tribes since the year 1924 is now designated as the village of "Sayajigaon" under approval and sanction of Government, in accordance with the wishes expressed by these people at the time they celebrated the "Golden Jubilee" of His Highness the Maharaja Sahab.

470. The Mahuwa and Vyara forests which had been separated into two Ranges since the year

Amalgamation of the Mahuwa and Vyara Ranges.

1916, were re-united during the year into a single Range, designed as Vyara Range, the change having been undertaken in the interest of retrenchment of expenditure.

471. The prescriptions of sanctioned working plans were carried out as far as possible in all Ranges. Thinning operation were continued. As a supplemental operation of amelioration of growing stock in coupes where regeneration is advanced over 12 years, since their exploitation on the system of coppice-with-standards, thinnings were undertaken in several coupes.

472. The Local Board Navasari division which, receives now large annual contributions, at the rate of one to one and a half anna in the rupee, and which received its quota of Rs. 54,675 during the year, undertook and carried out repairs to the important forest tracks and roads, wells and buildings. Repairs of the important forest tracks and roads by the Local Board.

Protection of Forests.

473. During the year 1925-26, the total number of forest offences was 116, as compared with 88 of 1924-25. This indicates an increase over the last year. But a great number of these offences were of petty pilferings which form a varying factor. The following statement compares the number of offences for the 12 months with that of the year 1924-25 and the average of the preceding three years:—

Number of Offences.

Year.	Injury to forest by fire.	Unauthorised felling or removal of produce.	Unauthorised grazing.	Other offences.	Total.	Average of the past 3 years.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1925—26	27	77	7	8	119	96
1924—25	24	53	7	4	88	96
1923—24	16	46	22	2	86	127

474. 83 cases were compounded by recovery of compensation under the Forest Act, while criminal prosecutions were instituted in 4 cases with success in all of them, and in 4 cases, offenders were undetected.

475. The area traversed over by fire is 29,528 bighas as against 29,875 of the last year. This shows a slight drop. In all, the areas traversed over by fires are very small excepting the Vajpur which is swept over by fires coming from over the border in Sagbara. Another factor which accounts for this large area burnt in Vajpur is that, since the dying down of the dense numerous and gregarious clumps of the bamboo in the year 1922-23 the entire forest floor is covered over with inflammable material of the dry dead clumps and the scarcity of rains for the latter half of the monsoon, rendered the conditions more favourable for such occurrence.

476. With a view to make the present fire-lines more efficient than before, the sanction of Government has been obtained to clear boundaries on the borders of Rajpipla and Sagbara—its tributary State—entirely of all forest growth to a width of 150 feet and to make similar clearance on some of the important internal fire-lines in the Vajpur, Nanchal and Nesu tracts.

477. Cutting of climbers was carried out at a cost of Rs 621. The area set apart for the purpose, as per the working scheme, was taken in hand and was gone over completely. One-fifth of the area was thus taken in each of the Ranges. In some places, the parasite Loranthus was similarly dealt with.

478. The forest areas opened and closed to grazing were as follows :—

Protection from cattle.

	Bighas.	Percent.
Closed to all animals for the whole year.	1,13,369	15.7
Open to all animals for the whole year.	6,05,765	84.3
Total.	7,19,134	

The number of cattle in most of the ranges is very small; and in consequence, there is no great damage. Only those areas undergoing regeneration after fellings are closed and the maximum closure is limited to one-fourth of the area in each block.

LAC CULTURE

479. Lac culture is carried on by departmental agency as it has been the practice for several years. Sanction of Government to carry out lac culture departmentally. Government are desirous that the work should be done on a contract system but no one would come forward to undertake this work as it is spread over a considerable large area which cannot be managed by private individuals. Such is the experience and opinion of the lac experts also. Hence a special sanction was sought to continue to do the work departmentally.

480. The total cost of propagation and collection of lac came to Rs. 10,761 and the total quantity collected is 1,565 maunds (a maund equal to 40 lbs.). This entire stock remains unsold though tenders were invited twice as the price so far offered is unreasonably low owing to the present general trade depression in the market. Expenditure incurred on collection of lac was Rs. 10,761 while the total quantity of lac was 1,565 maunds.

481. Small quantities of seed-lac were supplied to the Rajpipla State while indents for similar supply from Sawantwadi State and from the Entomologist, Indian Lac Research Institute, are outstanding for compliance at the next stage when insects will be just about to swarm out and available for the purpose of transmission to these quarters. Seed-lac supplied to the Indian States.

SYLVICULTURE

Natural reproduction

482. The majority of the species seeded well during the year and new natural reproduction of Sag, Shisham, Sadada, Tanach, Beeya, etc., was very satisfactory in all the Ranges. Owing to the unseasonal blowing of cold winds and of a few showers of rains in the month of March last the tender flower buds of the trees of Mahuda (*Bassia latifolia*) were blown off and in consequence the crop of Mahuda seeds was extremely poor.

Condition of forest regeneration is satisfactory.

483. Most of the old extensive blanks and cultivations are filling in as a result of fire protection and regular annual seed-dibbling on a large scale, and will probably contain valuable crops in forty years more.

Blank areas are filling in by seed-dibbling.

Thinning operations in natural crops

484. This is the second year since thinnings have been undertaken which have been at present carried on in Mahuwa-Vyara Ranges in which an area of 1,937 bighas involving 16 coupes that were exploited in the year 1913-14, was thinned.

Thinning and weeding operations.

485. Weeding out of badly grown coppice-shoots leaving a few most vigorous once to grow freely, where they appear too many on one and the same shoots, was undertaken more systematically and more extensively than before. Thus 60 coupes that were exploited in the past years were taken in hand for the purpose.

The weeding process of unhealthy coppice shoots was carried on in 60 coupes exploited in the past.

486. 40 lbs of sandalwood seeds from Bangalore, 40 lbs. of Silver Oak from Poona, 10 lbs. of Artificial reproduction. of Casuarina from Nellore and 1½ lb. of

bamboos from South Coimbatore were imported and distributed for being sown in suitable areas in the different Ranges. Seed-beds of silver oak were prepared at Salher and 337 plants obtained therefrom were put out round about the hill. 2,000 pieces of bamboo rhizomes were dug out from the Medha forests and put out in pits at Salher. There also in an area of 15 bighas, sowings of Khair seeds in furrows have been carried out, the results of which have been very satisfactory, while 68 bags of seeds were collected locally by the Range Officers and dibbled in open blanks in the forests just before the break of the monsoon.

487. According to the devised working scheme by which the entire area in Atarsumba Range is divided into five parts and each part is to be taken in hand for planting up the portions of land in Fulji Muwada and Deokaran Muwada were taken in hand for the purpose which aggregate an area of 1,862 bighas. 18,000 bamboo plants from Vajpur Range, and 4,000 seedlings of teak from Sadadwel Range were imported and transplanted in these two localities. In the local nursery at Waghjipur were reared 5,000 seedlings of Teak, 2,000 of Khair, 1,000 of bamboo, 1,000 of Shivan, 300 of Sandalwood and 100 of Samar. These plants were also put out and fenced strongly with the mass of cut branches of "ber" or *Zizyphus jujuba* trees, in the aforesaid areas.

OKHAMANDAL

488. During the year, for the first time after a lapse of more than five years, Okhamandal got sufficient rainfall. In the interval, the water of all the wells had turned brackish which could not be utilized for watering plants. Hence the work of rearing seedlings was to a great extent hampered. 40 bagfuls of the seeds of babool, Awal, Asintra, Timru, Khair and Kanti were imported from other Ranges and dibbled in suitable areas. 75 plants of cocoa-nut were brought from Pardi and put out at the end of July last at different places, most of which are still in a flourishing condition.

489. About 2,600 seedlings of Teak, Sadada, Shisham, Sivan, Sandalwood and bamboos were reared in the Lachhras nursery and were put out in the forests in suitable areas of which 2,000 were Teak. Besides, 15 maunds of seeds of Teak, Sadada, Khair and Dhamoda were dibbled in open areas of Tandalja and Parota.

The Sankheda Range.

490. Receipts from the collection of grazing fees and sales of grass from "beeds" fetched Rs. 40,506 as against Rs. 56,206 of the preceding year. The revenue from this source of the year seems apparently low simply owing to the late rains in Okhamandal and Gir on account of which the collection of grazing fees was delayed so that a part of the realisation goes in the next year's account.

Receipts from grazing and sales of grass.

491. Ten lac lbs. of grass was stored at Vyara by the Government grass contractor under a three year contract. The period of the contract expires at the end of the year under report. Hence sanction of Government has already been asked for continuing the scheme of storing grass for further period of three years. Owing to frequent occurrences of famines and demands for grass in the past in the Okhamandal Mahal, it has been decided to keep a reserved stock of five lac lbs. of grass at the Dhari Railway Station ready for despatch.

Storage of grass at Vyara and Dhari.

492. The financial results continue to be satisfactory as before. The total revenue came to an unprecedented figure of Rs. 6,46,371. This amount included as usual the sum of Rs. 56,731 collected as local cess. The figures of revenue and expenditure are given below:—

Financial results satisfactory.

Year	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Surplus.
1	2	3	4
1925-26	6,46,371	1,51,155	4,95,216
1924-25	5,96,704	1,28,213	4,68,491
1923-24	4,61,485	1,30,580	3,30,905
1922-23	4,96,008	1,24,132	3,71,876
1921-22	4,64,256	1,29,252	3,35,004
1920-21	3,78,986	1,22,235	2,56,751

493. The total realisation from minor products is Rs. 33,825 which compares favourably with the figure of the last year when it is considered that a very large stock of lac remains unsold.

494. During the year, important and radical changes were made under orders of Government in the method of keeping forest accounts and of making Forest department disbursements by means of cheques hitherto issued by the Conservator of Forests.

495. His Highness the Maharaja Sahab of Benares made a Shikar trip in the Gir forests and shot a lion and caught a small cub in the limits of the Chanchai State adjoining to our forests. Shrimant Pratapsing Raje also visited the forests in the Songadh Taluka for the purpose of Shikar during the last hot weather.

E The Electric Department

496 The general working of the Electrical Department, continues to show steady progress as regards revenue and output. The total amount of energy generated has increased from 21,26,620 K.

W. H. to 26,81,800 K. W. H. The total maximum supply demanded was 580 K. W. against 500 K. W. in the preceding year. This represents an increase of about 26 p.c. in the output of the generating plant. The maximum demand on the generating plant has increased by about 15 p.c. The energy distributed from sub-stations has also increased considerably. The load development of some of the sub-stations has increased by 19 p.c. With a view to cope with the increased service demands extensions to the generating plant have become necessary and are under consideration.

497. The number of consumers connected to the supply system during the year was 132 against 103 last year; the total number of consumers connected being 952 against 821 at the end of the previous year. Lighting load connected at the end of this year amounts to 20,625 lights equivalent to 25 C. P. against 18,388 last year. Total motor load for power and other purposes amounted to 85.8 K. W. against 49 K. W. in the preceding year.

498. In order to meet the growing demands for electric supply, transformer sets of larger output have been provided at some of the principal sub-stations. A new sub-station is being erected near Gendi Gate; this will relieve Laheripura Sub-station of some of its load and the load conditions of the latter will become easier. When the Gendi Gate sub-station will be ready for regular service, it will serve Goyagate and Wadi districts as far as Gendi Gate. Low tension supply mains have already been run on some of the principal sections. Extensions of supply mains in outlying sections beyond Baroda Camp limits have been made at a special concession to the Methodist Church, Mission School and Hospital.

499. The electric equipment fitted in Government buildings, offices, etc., during the year amounts to 246 lights and 43 fans and one 5 H. P. motor. Total equipment in Government buildings at the end of the

year amounts to 2,771 lights, 496 fans and 4 house service motors. This represents a maximum demand of 203 K. W.

500. Total load connected with the supply system ending 31-7-1926 amounts to 20625 lights, 896 fans, 83 motors aggregating to 2,154 k. w. as compared with 18,388 lights, 841 fans and 70 motors aggregating to 1993 k. w. last year.

501. During the year, 11 new telephones have been connected to the city central exchange. In addition to this an automatic exchange of 50 lines capable of extension into 300 lines, has been installed in Kothi buildings for the use of Heads of Departments as an experimental measure. Junction lines are also provided for enabling subscribers connected to it to use the long distance trunk lines through the local call office. The total number of telephone calls passed through the central exchange during the year amount to 5,21,503. The average number of calls per day works out to 1,429.

502. Figures of electric earnings and expenditure are as under:—

Electric earnings and expenditure.

Gross earnings.	Working expenditure.	Net earning.
Rs. 2,48,775	Rs. 1,27,190	Rs. 1,21,585

Expenditure for electric capital works during the year was Rs. 79,096 against Rs. 1,33,271 last year. The total electric capital at the end of the year comes to Rs. 18,36,219.

F. Palace Dairy

503. The strength of the herd at the close of the year was 159 as against 125 at the beginning. Strength of the herd. Out of this, 21 cows and 14 buffaloes were the average milk stock.

504. The total quantity of milk produced during the year came to 74,915½ lbs. from cows and 52,452 from buffaloes as against 69,448½ and 38,513 respectively last year.

Of this year's produce, 19,594½ lbs. were supplied to the Palace, 54,330 lbs. to the State General Hospital, 9 279½ lbs. to sundry customers.

505. Total expenditure of the Institution came to Rs. 37,556-13-0 as against Rs. 33,285-10-0 Expenses and revenue during the past year, while the income was Rs. 21,847-12-2 as against Rs. 18,333-11-0 in the preceding year.

506. This disparity in the figures of income and expenditure is mainly due to the Institution having an experimental breeding farm. Reasons for the disparity. Attempts are being made to reduce the expenses. It must, however, be pointed out that the experimental character of the dairy farm will involve it in expenses for which the institution will not be able to show any returns in rupees, annas and pies except in a better breed of milch and other cattle in the farms around.

CHAPTER VII

PUBLIC WORKS

A. Public Works Branch

507. The Budget allotment for the P. W. D. proper for the year was Rs. 29,49,500. The following Grants and Outlay. Table No. 1 shows the amounts spent by several divisions during the year under report. The District Local Boards were provided with funds out of P. W. D. Budget for transferred works :—

TABLE No. I

Serial No.	Divisions.	Expenditure.	
		1924-25.	1925-26.
1	2	3	4
1	Baroda City Division...	5,30,329	6,72,552
2	Palace Division ...	6,52,941	7,49,700
3	Garden Division ...	1,23,024	3,32,011
4	Baroda Division ...	1,69,674	1,65,035
5	Kadi Division ...	2,21,418	1,79,205
6	Navsari Division ...	2,92,991	2,16,616
7	Amreli Division ...	2,17,528	1,99,294
8	Works transferred to Local Board ...	3 85,178	4,69,988
9	Deposit contribution works ...	...	5,94,495
10	Reproductive Works ...	33,625	...
	Total...	25,26,708	35,78,896

508. The following table shows the comparison between the expenditure incurred by the department in the year under report and that during the previous year under different heads :—

Expenditure during the year.

TABLE No. II

Serial No.	Heads.	Expenditure.	
		1924-25.	1925-26.
1	2	3	4
1	Original	13,10,733	14,05,809
2	Repairs	8,00,899	8,63,143
3	Establishment	3,56,111	3,63,355
4	Tools and Plant	19,491	16,013
5	Refund of Revenue	6,762	36,440
6	Petty Military P. Works	10,071	291
7	Irrigation A... ..	35,320	28,774
8	Extra Ordinary Famine	53,298	57
9	Pension-Gratuity ... ..	...	89
10	Reproductive Works	33,625	14,594
11	Kirkol (Miscellaneous)	398	2,578
12	Transferred expenditure ... ..	...	2,53,258
13	Deposit contribution works ... ..	...	5,94,495
	Total....	26,26,708	35,78,896

BUILDINGS AND ROADS

509. The following table shows some of the important original works that were either completed or in progress during the year in the Buildings and roads. several divisions :—

Name of the Division.	Works completed.	Works in progress.
1	2	3
City Division	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A new line in the second regiment at Warshia. 2. Infirmary for the aged poor near the Lunatic Asylum 3. Additions to the outpatient block in the State General Hospital. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A new line in 2nd Regiment at Warshia. 2. Extension of Factory Chawls in the Central Jail for workshop. 3. Shed in the Kalabhavan Workshop.
Palace Division.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. South portion Bed room: extension in L. V. Palace, 2. Constructing three blocks each accommodating three guests in the compound of the Guest House at Baroda. 3. Talimkhana on top floor south side in Lal Bag Palace 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Shankerbag Mansion. 2. Proposed additions to the Garage for ten new motor cars.
Baroda Division.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dharmaj High School. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sojitra Police Line. 2. An Antyaj School at Petlad 3. A third Class Dispensary at Dharmaj.
Kadi Division.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. General Hospital at Pattan above plinth level with subsidiary buildings. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Constructing a combined Maternity and General Hospital at Visnagar. (a partly donation work).

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Dispensary at Langhnaj in Mehsana Taluka with subsidiary buildings. 3. Lock-up at Attarsumba. 4. Kindergarten School at Pattan. 5. Boarding House at Pattan with subsidiary buildings. 6. Mahalkari quarters at Attersumba. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Constructing Gymnasium for the combined school at Mehsana.
<p>Navsari Division.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Police Thana at Salher. 2. A Dispensary at Kholwad. 3. A Boarding House at Kathor. 4. Mindhola Bridge Work. 5. Vyara Water Works. 6. Songadh Water Works. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Karkoon Chawl at Navsari. 2. Dispensary at Orna in Kamrej Taluka. 3. Vernacular School at Gandevi. 4. Unai Sanitarium Scheme. 5. Navsari Water Works.
<p>Amreli Division.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Two new blocks for Dhari Battalion lines at Amreli. 2. Reconstructing the Sharda Math at Dwarka. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reconstructing two blocks of Dhari Battalion lines at Dhari. 2. Constructing High School at Dwarka above plinth.

GARDEN DIVISION

510. The Makarpura, Laxmi Vilas, Nazarbag, Indumati and other gardens round the Khangi buildings were maintained as usual. The Maintenance of gardens round Palaces. Public Park suffered considerably on account of drought. By the aid of a new well and an oil engine and pump fixed thereon the garden was maintained fairly well.

IRRIGATION

511. The total outlay on Irrigation and Water Works up-to-date has been Rs. 65,59,383 and the Capital and maintenance expenditure on Irrigation and Water Works. expenditure on maintenance of these works during the year was Rs. 28,773. Maintenance work is not properly done owing to paucity of funds.

512. During the year, 20,246 Bighas of land were irrigated and Rs. 49,389 were derived as revenue in addition to other dues in the shape of Himayat charges. Rs. 1,356 were collected by the P. W. D. by replenishing the village tanks from surplus water of the Wadhwana Tank. Total income from Irrigation tanks was Rs, 50,745 during the year. Bighas of land irrigated and revenue derived there from.

513. The following irrigation works were either completed or remained in progress as subsidiary Irrigation works completed and in progress. works to those already undertaken before :—

1. Urgent repairs to the Shipore Timbi Tank. This work is still in an unsafe condition and requires strengthening.
2. Urgent repairs to Jojwa Dam. This work has been neglected for want of proper maintenance and intelligent administration.
3. Repairs to Canal and Nalla of the Dumad Tank.

Works in Progress

1. Testing the Dam of Dhanora Tank.
2. Preliminary survey of gauging stations in Baroda district.

514. Consequent on some works failing to keep up their promise, a feeling of despondency has got hold of officials which reflects itself in reluctance to maintain irrigation works. This is a short-sighted policy. If we cannot secure 5 or 6 p.c., it is no justification to neglect and allow work to become derelict and lose even 2 or 3 p.c. It is to be regretted that the indirect advantages of irrigation works are not generally recognised. It is a realization of this that has induced the Government to take up the work of restoration and development of all major irrigation works, and funds have been placed at the disposal of the Chief Engineer for the purposes of investigation.

515. The control over the maintenance of Water Works and the distribution of water in Baroda City within the Municipal limits continued with the City Municipality. The P. W. D. continued to maintain supervision over the Head works at Ajwa, Filter beds at Nimetta and the main pipe line outside the Municipality limits in the City. As the rain-fall was scanty in the monsoon of 1925, the water of Ajwa Lake stood at the beginning of October at R. L. 202.14 while the level of water in the preceding year was 201.80. Special efforts had, therefore, to be made to minimise daily consumption of Ajwa water.

516. The Ajwa and Nimetta works were maintained at a cost of Rs. 32,217 by the City Division out of Municipal contribution. Samples of water from the Nimetta filter beds were examined and analysed by the Chemical Analyser and the State Bacteriologist at intervals. The quantity of filtered water continued to be good.

517. The water works at Sinor, Sankheda and Pattan were looked after and maintained by the P. W. D. at the cost of the respective Municipalities. The Sojitra Water Works was handed over to the Vishishta Panchayat of that place on 1-10-25. The Bhadran, Kathore and Sojitra Water Works continued to be maintained, by the Bhadran, Kathore and Sojitra Vishishta Panchayats

518. Water Works at Mehsana in the Kadi district were completed and put in commission.

Completion of
Mehsana W. Works.

519. The new Chief Engineer paid flying visits to various parts of the State to get into touch with things and whenever possible made a point of visiting irrigation works and recorded preliminary notes for the guidance of the staff so that no time be lost in passing up repair estimates.

Inspection of the
several irrigation
tanks and visit of
four districts by the
new Chief Engineer.

520. The Budget for the City Drainage works allotted by the Government amounted to Rs. 87,654 out of which Rs. 81,312 were spent during the year. The cost of the maintenance of pumping contributed by the Municipality amounted to Rs. 22,645. Amount realised from 242 bighas of land irrigated with sewage water at the main pumping station amounts to Rs. 4,548.

Works and maintenance of the already completed.

GENERAL

521. Old structures of Archæological interest in the Kadi district have been definitely listed and their repairs have been ordered. A list of structures of archæological interest has been asked for from the Divisional Executive Engineers and on receipt of them a general list will be prepared. Works for their maintenance and general upkeep will then be under-taken.

Maintenance of
Buildings of Archæo-
logical interest.

522. Mr. G. Wittet, F.R., I.B.A., Architect, Bombay, was invited to visit Baroda in connection with the construction of the Hotel portion of the Guest House. Plans and estimates were prepared in accordance with his advice and submitted to Government. Mr. Coyle continued to render professional advice occasionally in connection with the Russell and Aldworth properties in England.

Visit of Mr. G. Wittet to Baroda for advice on professional matters.

523. Mr. S. K. Gurtu was, prior to his appointment as Chief Engineer, invited to report on the the Pratappura Project to augment the water supply of Shree Sayaji Sarover. His report was received and submitted to Government in April.

Report on Pratappura sent to Government.

524. A Report on the Scheme of Patan Drainage by Mr. A. P. Maddock has been received and is under consideration.

Report on Patan Drainage.

525. Mr. F. N. Bose was engaged during the year as an Artist for the preparation of statues and Busts and for delivering lectures on technical subjects to the students of Kalabhavan and to the Public.

Engagement of Mr. F. N. Bose as Artist.

526. The foundation stone of the Kirti Mandir in the compound of Chhatra building was laid by His Highness the Maharaja Saheb on 15-1-26.

Foundation stone ceremony of Kirti Mandir and Science Institute and opening ceremony of Infirmary Building.

The foundation stone ceremony for the Science Institute in the compound of Baroda College was performed by His Excellency the Viceroy Lord Reading on 23-1-26. The inauguration of the Infirmary at Baroda was performed by His Highness the Maharaja Saheb on 10-3-26.

527. The opening ceremony of the Mehsana Water Works was held on 19-7-26 and was performed by Shrimant Pratapsinh Rao Raje and the opening ceremonies of the

Opening Ceremony of Mehsana Water Works.

Pattan Boarding House and the Kindergarten School were performed by the Dewan Saheb on 20-7-26.

528. Except for the appointment of Mr. S. K. Gurtu as the Chief Engineer, the personnel of the Department and the organisation remained practically the same as in the preceding year.

529. Expenditure on proper P. W. D. Establishment amounted to Rs. 3,63,355 in the year under report against Rs. 3,13,951 incurred in the previous year. These figures are exclusive of expenditure on the Local Board establishments.

530. In connection with the organisation and the working of the department, Mr. Gurtu, the new Chief Engineer, makes some interesting observations in his report, some extracts from which are reproduced below.

531. In the matter of preparation of estimates and construction of works accuracy is not studied and estimates are exceeded and expenses incurred without proper sanction, leading to interminable audit and fruitless correspondence.

532. In the matter of auditing of accounts the letter is more rigidly adhered to than the spirit and interpretations stretched beyond their natural scope and limit, with the result that nobody is sure on what action audit will be taken and this engenders much confusion and lengthy correspondence.

533. The lower subordinate staff is considerably undermanned and many petty investigations and estimates have to be carried out by highly paid staff of Engineers. The administration is a bit top-heavy.

534. The policy of engaging temporary hands for carrying out new large works is not sound as temporary men are naturally not quite reliable and do not give their best—their one motive is to work the least and earn the most. We should have two or three energetic supernumerary men in the department who could not only act as relieving officers in Divisions and sub-divisions and thus get training but carry out all investigation work which is ordered from time to time by the Government and in case of large works being put in hand, could at once be drafted to their new charges.

535. The provisions of the P. W. D. and the Accounts Code have become inapplicable and require overhauling to suit the changed circumstances.

Impolicy of entrusting important work to temporary men.
Necessity of revising the P. W. D. Code.

A regular re-organization of the department is not necessary but overhauling is certainly desirable in the interests of efficiency and economy.

536. As years go on and our constructional activity continues unabated a time will come when the burden of maintenance and repair will be very heavily felt. Indeed indications of this are already apparent. The maintenance and repair grant is not keeping pace with our increasing assets and many structures are looking unkept and uncared for. Our future policy should be guided more towards maintenance and conservation than vigorous construction.

Need of cutting down the programme of construction and putting maintenance on a more sound basis.

537. Old Drawing Records are very necessary for reference in every day administration but are not available. The P. W. D. Code does not seem to have been followed and whenever we want to know the exact state of a work we have to remeasure it,

Absence of Record Plans and necessity of a permanent Draftsman to keep Drawing records in order.

which is a tedious and costly process. Handicap as this works in regard to Architectural Section, it is paralysing in the matter of Irrigation works as for any petty information that is wanted in respect of a tank it is not available—the old records incomplete as they were have been damaged and partially lost. A permanent Draftsman and Drawing Record keeper is urgently wanted.

538. Having carried out works of such magnitude it is to be regretted that no history is compiled showing details of the works, their object, function, the expenditure incurred—an authoritative compilation from which outsiders could know what achievements Baroda has made in the realm of construction.

B. Railways

539. The following statement gives the figures of the capital cost, working expenditure, percentage on revenue and capital expenditure, cost per mile, net earnings, etc., on the railways owned by the State and managed either by the State Railway department or foreign lines, for the last six years:—

Earnings and other figures.

Statement showing the capital cost, working expenditure, percentage on revenue and capital expenditure, cost per mile, etc., on G. B. S. Railways, Anand Pellad Ry., Melsana Rys, Khijadia Dhari, Ry. and Okha Railway.

Name of Railways.	Year ending 31st March	Capital invested.	Gross earnings	Expenditure.	Net earnings.	Working p.c.	P.C. on Capital.	Length.	Cost per mile.	Working expenses per mile.
		3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Gaekwar's Baroda State Railways including Bodeli Chhota Udaipur Ry.	1921	1,20,42,701	14,64,527	11,13,495	3,51,032	76.03	2.91	290.14	41,507	3,838
	1922	1,35,25,452	13,66,974	12,11,901	1,55,073	88.65	1.15	301.81	44,814	4,015
	1923	2,31,06,764	19,28,494	12,82,421	6,46,073	66.50	2.79	339.03	68,155	3,783
	1924	2,41,68,292	24,27,019	17,82,694	6,44,325	73.45	2.66	338.04	71,495	5,274
	1925	2,51,85,512	26,62,276	19,14,853	7,47,423	71.93	2.96	339.03	74,287	5,649
	1926	2,60,90,975	29,09,511	19,65,176	9,44,335	67.54	3.62	341.17	76,475	5,760
	1921	12,96,643	3,91,439	2,63,708	1,27,731	67.37	9.78	21.41	60,562	12,317
Anand Pellad Railway.	1922	13,17,975	3,94,011	2,99,211	94,800	75.94	7.26	21.41	61,559	13,975
	1923	13,66,342	4,60,009	3,19,750	1,40,259	69.51	10.56	21.41	63,817	14,925
	1924	13,75,339	4,97,767	2,95,558	2,02,209	59.38	14.35	21.41	64,238	13,805
	1925	13,81,132	5,21,125	2,99,126	2,21,999	57.40	16.07	21.41	64,509	13,971
	1926	13,87,973	5,27,103	3,22,956	2,04,147	61.27	14.70	21.42	64,798	15,077
	1921	99,54,057	14,74,374	9,93,271	4,81,103	67.37	6.60	230.84	43,121	4,303
Melsana Railway.	1922	1,00,15,434	15,66,798	11,89,824	3,76,974	75.94	3.78	230.25	43,498	5,158

Name of Railways.	Year ending 31st March	Capital invested.	Gross earnings.	Expenditure.	Net earnings.	Working p. c.	P. C. on Capital.	Length.	Cost per mile	Working expenses per mile,
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Khajadia Dhari Railway.	1923	1,00,66,144	19,13,796	13,30,271	5,83,525	69'51	5'83	230'25	43,718	5,777
	1924	1,01,15,156	19,69,113	11,69,199	7,99,914	59'38	7'95	230'25	43,931	5,078
	1925	1,02,62,489	19,36,170	11,11,360	8,24,810	57'40	8'19	230'25	44,571	4,827
	1926	1,03,12,546	20,09,243	12,31,064	7,78,179	61'27	7'54	230'25	44,788	5,347
	1921	19,79,683	1,16,133	88,198	27,935	75'95	1'40	37'22	53,189	2,369
	1922	19,91,556	1,14,332	84,132	30,200	73'59	1'52	37'22	53,508	2,263
	1923	19,83,033	1,21,443	96,441	25,002	79'41	1'26	37'22	53,279	2,591
Okha Railway Opened from 17-6-1922.	1924	19,97,946	1,28,751	1,06,753	21,998	82'91	1'10	37'22	53,679	2,868
	1925	19,98,789	1,42,142	1,20,810	21,332	84'99	1'06	37'22	53,702	3,246
	1926	20,00,946	1,39,249	1,14,001	25,248	81'86	1'26	37'22	53,760	3,063
	1923	26,75,359	58,590	1,30,513	71,923	222'76	Loss	37'03	72,248	3,524
	1924	31,62,508	1,96,518	1,56,811	39,707	79'79	1'22	37'03	88,104	4,235
	1925	32,96,967	1,38,457	1,17,877	20,580	85'14	0'63	37'03	89,035	3,183
	1926	34,50,833	1,25,566	1,13,826	11,740	90'65	0'34	37'03	93,190	3,074

540. Total gross earnings on the State managed lines during the year amounted to Rs. 29,09,511 against Rs. 26,62,276 in the previous year. The net increase of Rs. 2,47,235 in the gross earnings is attributable to :—

- (a) General development of the country served by Railway,
- (b) Improvement in administrative organisation,
- (c) Earnings from cotton traffic of both 1925 and 1926 having been accounted for in the year 1925-26 owing to 1926 cotton crop having matured earlier than usual for marketing.

541. Proposals involving a fundamental change in the railway financial organisation were drawn out and submitted to the Advisory Board, who pressed an urgent change in this direction on Government. As the proposals were of a highly technical nature Government called Sir T. R. Wynne to scrutinise them and recommend what he considered best for the special conditions of G. B. S. Railway. As a result of his report Government introduced last year changes whose full value cannot just now be realised in its true perspective. Broad outlines of this scheme may be summarised as below :—

- (a) An amount equivalent to 1% of the capital at site of G. B. S. Railway will be taken out of the gross earnings and credited every year to depreciation fund to provide for renewals of the wasting assets of G. B. S. Railway at the end of their normal life.
- (b) G. B. S. Railway will have to provide funds for its requirements—revenue and capital—out of its own gross earnings, which will henceforth be

credited to a special Railway fund and remain at the disposal of the Railway.

- (c) A reserve fund will be created to provide for emergent expenditure or to finance protective lines.
- (d) New constructions will be divided into productive and protective lines.
- (e) Productive constructions will be left over to the department to initiate in its own interests.
- (f) Initiative and financing for protective lines will be left over to Government.
- (g) Funds sanctioned for works will not lapse but will remain to the credit of the sanctioned work in Railway fund.

542. Total number of passengers carried and the amount realised from this traffic during the year were 51,23,735 against 47,36,723 and Rs. 17,25,177 against Rs. 16,39,236 respectively.

543. Total amount of goods carried during the year came to 4,55,135 against 3,69,321 tons and the total income derived from this traffic came to Rs. 11,26,478 against Rs. 9,32,535 in the previous year.

FACILITIES TO TRAVELLERS

544. The following statement gives the speed and train service on G. B. S. Railway in 1921-22 and in the year under report :—

Speed and frequency
of train service.

Sections.	Under B. B & C. I. Management.		Under State Management.	
	Speed of trains.	No. of trains.	Speed of trains.	No. of trains.
Chhota Udeipur-Bodeli ...	12	2	15	4
Miyagam-Bodeli ...	12	4	15	6
Goyagate-Dabhoi ...	12	4	15	8
Jambusar-Goyagate.	12	4	15	4
Dabhoi-Chandod ...	12	4	15	6
Motipura-Tankhala.	12	...	15	2
Dabhoi-Timba ...	12	2	15	4
Miyagam branch ...	12	2	15	4
Bilimora-Kalamba.	12	2	15	2
Kosamba-Zankhav	12	2	15	2
Petlad branches ...	12	4	15	6

J. M. B. to Padra.

It will be seen from the above that the working speed has gone up from 12 to 15 miles an hour and number of trains has on important sections been doubled during the last five years. In addition to this a complete programme of strengthening the track and bridges, has been drawn out in the year under report, and which when completed will enable the department to raise the speed limit to 25 miles an hour and the carrying capacity of Dabhoi Railways by 50%.

545. The new rolling stock built during the last year provides 5.35 square feet of accommodation per passenger against 3.96 and 4.75 square feet in B. B. & C. I. Railway trains. Total number of third class vehicles is 109, out of which 58 have still to be provided with latrines and 62 to be

Comfortable accommodation.

equipped with electric lights. It is programmed to complete these equipments in the next two years at a total cost of Rs. 50,000.

546. Practically every semi-important stations has a tea vendor and important stations have sweets, chewra and fruit vendors. A special Indian Hotel was opened for passengers at Goyagate. Special instructions were also issued in the year to encourage erection of vendor stalls in convenient places and close to passenger sheds. Several vendors have already taken advantage of these concessions. A programme for providing drinking water taps at all watering stations has been drawn out at an estimated cost of Rs. 15,000.

547. New stations opened to traffic during the year were as under :—

Facilities of booking.

New flag stations	3
Conversion of flag into booking stations.	10

Total number of stations on G. B. S. Railway now amounts to 103 against 82 in 1921. Out of 103 stations, 16 are only for entraining and detraining and the rest have facilities of booking as well. A programme has been drawn out for gradual conversion of all flag stations into booking stations at an approximated expenditure of Rs. 80,000.

548. The timings of trains were revised to suit changes in local conditions. A shuttle train service was added to run between Masar Road and Dabhoi and it is intended to introduce a fast service on some of the sections of G. D. Railways with effect from 1-10-1926.

TRAFFIC

549. Cotton crop this year was below normal as will be seen from the following comparative figures of traffic booked :—

Traffic.

	F. P. Bales	H. P. Bales	Kuppas wagons.
1925	1,36,657	22,841	1,417
1926	84,280	20,390	490

9 Gins and two Presses were added this year, bringing a total of 57 Ginning Factories and 17 Presses over this Railway. The other traffic was normal.

550. The following number of wagons were transhipped at different junctions during the year :—

Transshipment at junctions.

	Broad Gauge.	Narrow Gauge.
Bilimora	161	5,135
Miyagam	4,454	4,923
Goyagate	4,153	6,223
Samalaya	1,821	337
Petlad	1,449	1,484
Kosamba	610	2,210
Timba Road	86	4

551. There were in all 223 accidents of all sorts during the year due to various causes against 292 last year, most of these being ordinary. These also include cases of 49 animals and 3 persons tresspassing the line having been run over.

552. Total expenditure for working the traffic department for the year was Rs. 4,00,622 against Rs. 3,55,610 last year. The increase was due to increased traffic.

553. Fairs were held at Unai between dates 26-4-26 to 30-4-1926 and at Chandod between 26-4-26 to 30-4-1926, the number of Fairs and Specials.

passengers attended being 6,000 and 8,000 respectively. Number of special trains run for the public during the year was nine.

ENGINEERING

554. The total expenditure on maintenance of track and structures amounted to Rs. 5,03,130. This includes the cost of renewals and also the amounts written off from capital to revenue owing to the dismantlement of Railway buildings.

Expenditure on maintenance.

555. G. B. S. Railway lines were inspected by the senior Government Inspector of Railways during March 1926. Their maintenance and running were favourably reported on. Work of strengthening permanent way with additional sleepers from Masar Road to Chandod and Bodeli to Miyagam was undertaken and completed during the year.

Senior Government Inspector's inspection.

LOCOMOTIVE

556. Six "WT" class tank engines were purchased and erected during the year, increasing the total number of engines in commission to 41 excluding one Broad Gauge engine. 146 coaching vehicles and 696 goods vehicles (including one Narrow Gauge travelling crane) constituted the Narrow Gauge rolling stock. In addition to this G. B. S. Railway has one Broad Gauge and one Metre Gauge travelling crane.

557. During the year, there were 11 engine failures representing one per 51,999 train miles against 36 failures representing one per 15,369 train miles last year.

Engine failures.

558. Train and engine miles worked during the year came to 5,71,988 and 7,41,191 against 5,53,299 and 7,05,514 respectively last year. The increase is due to additional train service run and extra shunting operations performed to meet with traffic demands. 1,460 train miles and 15,326 engine

Train and Engine miles.

miles were worked by Broad Gauge engine between Goyagate and Vishwamitri.

559. Coal consumption for the year was 44.73 lbs. per train mile and 34.52 engine mile against Coal consumption. 53.6 lbs. per train mile and 41.60 lbs. per engine mile for the last year. This improvement was the result of three factors :—

- (a) more rigorous inspection of coal purchased,
- (b) better maintenance of engines,
- (c) Mechanical improvement in blast pipe and boilers.

560. Besides the usual repair works the following rolling stock was completed in the shops during the year:—
 Outturn of new stock in the Workshop.

- (a) 10 Narrow Gauge bogie III class.
- (b) 2 Narrow Gauge bogie and brake van.
- (c) 7 Metre Gauge bogie carriage.
- (d) 1 Narrow Gauge saloon for His Highness.
- (e) 1 Inspection car.
- (f) 2 Broad Gauge saloons for His Highness.

561. Expenditure on the maintenance of the rolling stock and running the department amounted to Rs. 9,12,345 against Rs. 9,20,204 for the previous year.
 Expenditure on maintenance.

562. The expenditure in shops during the year amounted to Rs. 10,17,219 and the out-turn to Rs. 9,83,258. Net profit in shops amounted to Rs. 3,688. Capital expenditure on workshops to end of the year was Rs. 7,04,909 against Rs. 28,35,556 to the end of last year. The percentage of out-turn in relation to Capital works out to 27%.
 Workshops Expenditure.

563. Total value of stores purchased and issued during the year is as under :—

Stores purchased.

Balance on 31-7-1925	Rs. 10,55,775
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Purchased during 1925-26	Rs. 10,34,972
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Issued during 1925-26	Rs. 12,35,350
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Balance on 31-7-1926	Rs. 8,55,397
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Endeavours made to reduce the suspense balance as far as practicable are evident from the above mentioned figures.

564. Second verification of stock by the Audit Department was completed during the year and the result is shortly to be submitted to Government.

MISCELLANEOUS

565. Number of members of the Provident Fund Institution of G. B. S. Railways was 526 against 555 last year. The amount at the credit of the Fund accounts on 31-7-1926 was Rs. 2,58,750.

566. Rs. 1,765 were received in Fine Fund, the total disbursements being Rs. 110-8-0 leaving a balance of Rs. 12,215 -1-5 on 31-7-1926 against the last year's balance of Rs. 10,560,-9-5.

567. Two meetings of the Board were held on 7-9-1925 and 5-4-1926 respectively.

Advisory Board.

CHAPTER VIII

EDUCATION

568. Till 1871, there was no Education department and no Government Educational Institutions in the State. In most of the towns and big villages there were private elementary schools which taught reading, writing and arithmetic and were taken advantage of by the upper class of people such as Brahmins and Banias. It was for the first time in 1871 that the State established four Primary Schools, two Gujerati and two Marathi, in the City of Baroda. In subsequent years, a few more schools were opened at Petlad, Pattan and some other places, but their total number did not exceed 55 in 1875, 70 in 1876, 105 in 1877, and 145 in 1878. Even as late as 1881, an epoch making date as being the year in which His Highness the Maharaja Sayaji Rao III assumed his full powers, there were only 180 Primary schools, with 7,465 pupils throughout the State. So for all practical purposes the development of education in the State has been confined to the fifty years of His Highness' reign. During the year, on the occasion of the Golden Jubilee celebrations of His Highness' reign, the department prepared and published a short history of this development, showing the important landmarks in the educational policy of the State.

569. The general system and organisation of public instruction in the State is fairly complicated. The department is controlled by the Commissioner of Education and Vidya-dhikari, assisted by an Inspecting Staff and the heads of important institutions. Vertically the organisation is divided on the one hand into primary, secondary and higher education, with primary schools, English schools and the College

and literary education and technical education and education in Fine Arts on the other. The organisation also makes provision for the education of women, that of the backward classes and the education of the adults of the State as far as possible in a variety of ways. Progress in all these branches has obviously not been uniform owing to the varying urgency and importance of their claims and the limited nature of the resources of the State, but the efforts of the State have been all along directed towards a comprehensive and harmonious scheme.

IMPORTANT FEATURES

570 The year was not marked by the introduction of any new scheme of capital importance and the supervision, working, improvement and the consolidation of schemes already introduced formed the principal work of the department. In view of the fact that Compulsory Primary Education had been in operation for about a score of years, it was felt necessary, to take stock of the situation and to examine the question in the light of the experience gained with a view to revise the provisions of the Compulsory Education Act to meet the altered situation. His Highness the Maharaja Saheb, therefore, appointed a Committee for this work, which was kept in abeyance towards the end of the year and the work was entrusted to Rao Bahadur Govindbhai H. Desai, the Naib Dewan, in charge of the Education portfolio.

571 The following are some of the important features of the working of the department:—

Enumeration of
important features.

- (1) The grades of the secondary school teachers were revised.
- (2) The fees of the secondary schools were increased.
- (3) Two new posts were created in the Inspectorial Staff of the Department—(1) The Inspector for

Secondary schools, and (2) The Assistant Educational Inspector, Kadi Division.

- (4) Mr. B. A. English, Tutor to Maharaj Kumar Pratapsinh Rao Raje, was given a special promotion of Rs. 125 from 17th June 1926 in recognition of his good services with the Maharaja Kumar who passed his Bombay University School Leaving Examination.
- (5) Seven new posts of teachers for teaching Science and Vernacular were created for a period of three years in certain High Schools.
- (6) A Boarding House for girls was started in connection with the Maharani High School for Girls and Miss P. Chitre was appointed Lady Superintendent of the same on a salary of Rs. 120 per mensem.
- (7) A mixed School was opened at Varvala with the help of the donation given by Sundarabai, the widow of the late Hansaraj Pragji Thakersey.
- (8) Twenty scholarships (16 for Secondary and 4 for Higher Education) for deserving poor boys of middle class people were sanctioned.
- (9) The orphans residing in Shri Fatehsinh Rao Arya Anathashram are to be treated as extra free students in Schools, College and the Kala Bhavan.
- (10) The grant-in-aid to Shri Sayaji High School and the Maharani Chinnabai High School was raised to Rs. 500 per month each.
- (11) A donation of Rs. 30,000 was accepted from Messrs. D. B. Desai and M. A. Desai of Naosari for the Laboratory Building in connection with Sir C. J. N. Z. Madressa, Naosari, Rs. 20,000 being sanctioned as Government contribution.

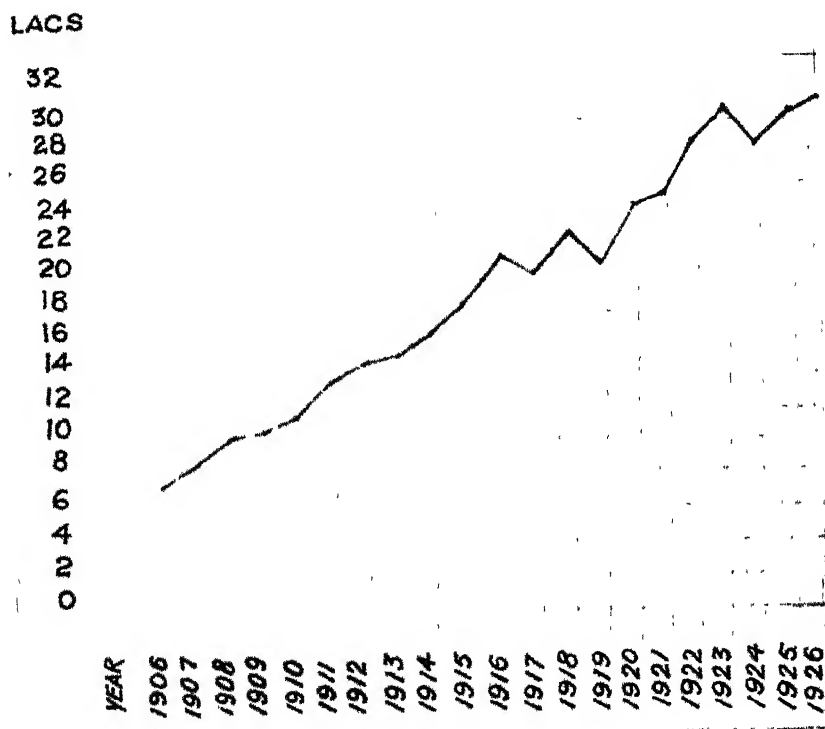
- (12) The post of a Lecturer in Biology of the grade of Rs. 100-200 was sanctioned for two years for the Baroda College. A sum of Rs. 3,000 was sanctioned for the Library and Laboratory grant in the Biological Section of the College.
- (13) The Dharmaj High School was named " The Vallabhdas Narottamdas High School " after the Donor.
- (14) A sum of Rs. 3,000 was given towards the expenses of the Baroda Mahila Pathshala.
- (15) Rs. 300 were sanctioned for supplying educational facilities to Antyaja boys receiving Secondary education.
- (16) A Board of Inspection for English Schools was appointed.
- (17) English classes were opened at Chalala and Khambha Vernacular Schools.
- (18) A Scout Master's Training Camp was held this year in the Summer Vacation.
- (19) Physical Training course was introduced in ten Girls' schools of the State for which a sum of Rs. 150 p.m. was sanctioned from the fines accruing from the Prevention of Early Marriage Act.
- (20) The grades of the Drawing teachers were revised.
- (21) A sum of Rs. 2,000 was donated for a period of three years to the Kadwa Patidar community of Kadi for the encouragement of education.
- (22) A sum of Rs. one Lac was sanctioned for school buildings over and above one and a half lakh already sanctioned in the Budget.

- (23) Rs. 1,200 were sanctioned for opening ten night schools in the State.
- (24) Rs. 1,000 were donated to the National Council of Young Men's Christian Association of India.
- (25) Rs. 1,75,000 were sanctioned for erecting a new building for the Kala-Bhavan Workshops.
- (26) Mr. Charles King, Principal, Engineering College, Benares Hindu University, was appointed as an Expert Adviser to the Kala Bhavan Technical Institute, Baroda, for a period of three years.
- (27) Rs. 500 were sanctioned for Educational Exhibition to be held at Amreli.
- (28) Messrs. B. B. More, D. R. Ghatge and M. H. Rane were deputed to England for higher training. Mr. Hakiin was deputed for the Bar-at-Law Examination to England and Prof. B. C. Lele to Germany for higher studies in Sanskrit.
- (29) Rs. 3,000 were sanctioned as help towards the expenses of Dr. Radhakumud Mukerjee's trip to Europe to be undertaken for a study of educational and sociological conditions there.
- (30) Six scholarships of Rs. 10 each were sanctioned for a period of three years for the Antyaja boys studying in Kala Bhavan.
- (31) Rs. 5,000 were sanctioned as Government Grant to five Village Libraries for the construction of buildings.
- (32) Rs. 500 were sanctioned as grant to Narayan Guru Vyayam Shala, Baroda, for a Swimming Bath.
- (33) The Depot contract was given to Messrs. The Luhana Steam Printing Press on condition to pay a royalty of Rs. 17,501 per year.

- (34) His Excellency Lord Reading, Viceroy and Governor General of India, visited Baroda in the month of January last. A Children's Gathering was held in the Nyaya Mandir Hall in his honour. He was pleased with the programme of entertainment provided by the children. Sweets were distributed to all the school children in the City. The ceremony of laying the Foundation Stone of the Science Institute was performed at the hands of His Excellency the Viceroy on the College grounds to commemorate his visit to Baroda. The Commissioner of Education with the help of the Chief Engineer carried out the arrangements in connection with the School Sports and the Foundation Stone Ceremony.
- (35) The most notable event of the year under report was the celebration of His Highness the Maharaja Saheb's Golden Jubilee by the people from 11th January to 13th January 1926. Sweets were distributed to school children in the whole State. At Baroda, a special Gathering of School Children was held on the 11th January on the specious grounds opposite the Laxmi Vilas Palace, and a special programme of Dialogues, Sports, Games, etc., was gone through. His Highness was highly pleased with the work displayed by school children and openly expressed himself highly satisfied before an assemblage of more than 12,000 persons with all that he saw. Prizes and medals were awarded to the successful competitors. On this occasion, a brief account of education in Baroda between the years 1875 and 1925 was specially published.
- (36) During the year, the grades of Educational Inspectors and teachers were revised.

— BARODA STATE —
EDUCATIONAL EXPENDITURE.

*DIAGRAM SHOWING FLUCTUATIONS IN EDUCATIONAL
EXPENDITURE IN LACS OF RUPEES.*



EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

572. The total strength of Educational Institutions at the end of the year was 2,976 as against 2,916 of the previous year which shows an increase of 60. The total number of pupils attending these institutions was 2,13,639 as against 2,17,138 of the previous year. This decrease was in a measure due to economic causes. The recent increase in fees charged in the Secondary schools is also partly responsible for a decrease of nearly 1,000 in the number of boys studying English.

573. The following tabular statement shows the total strength of the English and Vernacular Kinds of Institutions. Institutions and the number of pupils of both sexes attending them;—

No.	Name of Institutions.	Number.	Number of male pupils.	Number of female pupils.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6
<i>English Education.</i>					
1	The College ...	1	742	17	759
2	High Schools for Boys ...	19	7,082	13	7,095
3	High School for Girls ...	1	...	356	356
4	A. V. Schools ...	45	4,894	4	4,898
5	High Standard Classes ...	7	166	...	166
6	The Prince's School ...	...	...	...	...
7	Special Institutions ...	2	179	...	179
Total ...		75	13,063	390	13,453
<i>Vernacular Education.</i>					
8	Training College for Men...	1	185	...	185
9	Training College for Women	1	...	77	77
10	Vernacular Schools for Boys	2,404	126,066	...	126,066
11	Vernacular Schools for Girls	369	...	66,005	66,005
12	The Kala-Bhavan...	1	337	...	337
13	Other Institutions...	125	6,329	1,187	7,516
Total ...		2,901	132,917	67,269	200,186
Grand Total...		2,976	145,980	67,650	213,639

447 students, were learning English in the five mixed Schools at Attarsumba, Gangadhara, Mahuwa, Varvala and Beyt.

ENGLISH EDUCATION

574. During the year, there were 80 English teaching institutions including five mixed schools.

English Institutions and number of Pupils. The number of pupils on the roll in these institutions is shown in the following table :—

Number of Institutions.		Institutions.	Number of students.	
1924-25.	1925-26.		1924-25.	1925-26.
1	2	3	4	5
		GOVERNMENT.		
1	1	Baroda College	814	759
14	14	High School for Boys	5,534	5,173
1	1	High School for Girls	330	356
25	24	A. V. Schools	3,719	3,325
2	2	Boy Scout Organisations	284	179
1	...	Prince's School	6	...
		AIDED.		
5	5	High Schools	1,941	1,922
6	6	A. V. Schools	752	727
4	4	Standard V. VI. Classes	74	82
		UNAIDED.		
16	15	A. V. Schools.	904	846
3	3	Unaided Classes	67	84
78	75	5 Mixed Schools	14,425	13,453

575. To the total number of students indicated in the table shown above may be added 1,350; of whom 1,170 were learning English in 27 Primary Schools, 180 in the Antyaja Schools at Baroda, Navsari, Unza and Pattan, and 447 were learning English in the five Mixed Schools at Attarsumba, Gangadhara, Mahuva, Varavala and Beyt. The total number of pupils learning English came to 15,250 (14,849 boys and 401 girls) as against 16,166 (15,817 boys and 349 girls) showing a decrease of 916 students in all.

576. The Baroda College, which is the only institution in the State preparing students for the degrees of the University of Bombay was established in the year 1882. It was recognised by the Bombay University for the full courses in Arts and Science in 1890. As usual, a University Inspection Committee consisting of Principals Rambhushan and Shah, Dr. Meldrum and Revd. Macphail visited the College in December. The remarks recorded by the Committee were mainly on the same lines as in 1924.

577. The number of students attending the College at the end of the year was 759 compared with 814 of the preceding year. About 798 students were admitted in June but 39 left when the time came for the payment of fees. Government has fixed the maximum limit of admission at 900, whereas the University Inspection Committee requires that limit to be reduced to 800 looking to the present class space. There were 17 women students at the College.

578. The 3 Government Hostels accommodate about 150 students. A bungalow in the Sayaji Ganj accommodating about 35 students is hired by the College; but the demand for additional accommodation continues unabated. Mr. Vrajbhaj V. Patel has

renewed his offers of Rs. 25,000 for a hostel for the Patidar community and it will take some time before final proposals are submitted to Government. Government has not approved of Seth Samal Bechar's offer of a bungalow in the Baroda Camp for use as a College Hostel. It is necessary to build another block for hostel purposes to accommodate at least 100 students.

579. The College requires additional accommodation for class rooms, Laboratories, Library and Hostel. Physics lectures to the First year students have to be given in unsuitable rooms in the main building. A larger lecture room is required for Chemistry. The College Library is also not properly housed, and there is no separate room that could be used as a Reading Room for the students. It is often difficult to engage Arts Classes at suitable times for want of rooms. The foundation stone of the Science Laboratory has been laid and it is hoped that its completion will soon afford the requisite accommodation.

580. The Library has at present about 13,310 books, but a number of these is liable to be discarded as being out of date or otherwise valueless. New purchases will also have to be made. Government has been pleased to sanction an additional grant over and above the annual grant of Rs. 1,500 to enable the College Library to be brought up-to-date in the various subjects.

581. There is provision from the funds of the Students' Union for Cricket, Tennis, Football and Ping Pong. The Union likewise maintains a Reading Room and issues annually "The Baroda College Magazine". There is a Debating Society well patronised by the students in addition to more or less technical societies like the Historical, Philosophical and Scientific Societies.

582. The total expenditure on account of the College amounted to Rs. 1,58,585 as against Rs. 1,48,614 of the last year. The

receipts from fees etc. amounted to Rs. 71,355 as against Rs. 91,718 for the preceding year. The net cost of educating each pupil came to Rs. 115 in the year under report.

583. The number of Government High Schools continued to be the same, i.e. 15, as that of last year.
 High Schools for Boys and Girls. Of these, the Maharani High School at Baroda is exclusively meant for girls. Besides these, there are 5 aided High Schools, 2 at Baroda, and 1 each at Dharmaj, Navasari and Gandevi. There are two classes, one aided Matriculation Class at Vaso and the other unaided Matriculation Class at Kadi.

584. The number of Anglo Vernacular Schools, both Government and aided, was 30 during the year and in addition to these there were 4 aided fifth and sixth standard classes attached to the Government A. V. Schools at Kalol, Dehgam and Vaso respectively and 18 unaided A. V. Schools and Classes.

585. Government have provided hostel accommodation in connection with the High Schools at Patan, Amreli, Petlad, Mehsana, and Visnagar. The High Schools at Dabhoi, Padra, Billimora, Sojitra, Bhadran and Kathore and the Anglo Vernacular School at Kadi were provided with hostels on the grants-in-aid principle. Besides this the Dabu quarters at Navsari accommodated a large number of students of Sir J. N. Z. Madressa. The provision of scholarships for encouragement of special merit and for creating opportunities for poor students for advanced education was enhanced to some extent during the year under report.

586. The aggregate annual value of the State Scholarships in the Baroda College and the Secondary Schools of the State was Rs. 13,316 as against Rs. 8,634 in the preceding year. Besides these, two Commercial Scholarships for Higher and Secondary Education.

Scholarships each of the value of Rs. 20 were awarded to Baroda State students studying at the Sydenham College of Commerce and Economics at Bombay. Out of the annual grant of Rs. 8,000 for Khangi Scholarships founded by His Highness the Maharaja Saheb, Rs 5,851 were spent in awarding scholarships to 22 boys and 4 girls. Maratha Scholarships of the total value of Rs. 1,682 were awarded to 13 boys of the Maratha community studying in and outside the State Schools from the interest accruing on the Maratha Education Fund of Rs. 1,50,000 founded by His Highness the Maharaja Saheb. Out of the amount of this interest Rs. 2,400 were paid to the Deccan Association and Rs. 893-11-5 were paid to the Maratha Education Conference as usual. Besides this, an amount of Rs. 7,713 was spent on the payment of Shree Sayaji Rao Scholarships out of the interest of Rs. 1,00,000 set apart for the spread of higher education amongst the members of the Maratha Caste.

Besides this, an amount of Rs. 1,800 per annum has been sanctioned by the Huzur for the education of Maratha girls. This amount was paid to the Deccan Association, Poona, for distribution as scholarships.

587. Expenditure and receipts under the head of English Education for the last three years are shown below:—

Expenditure and
Receipts.

Year.	Expenditure.	Income.
1	2	3
1923-24	5,92,950	1,60,723
1924-25	6,01,906	1,81,882
1925-26	6,47,318	2,24,185

EDUCATION OF HIS HIGHNESS' GRAND-CHILDREN

588. During the year under report there was no change whatever in the staff or pupils in the Education of His Highness' grand children. Prince's School. There were in all 5 students in the School. The School worked steadily with the result that Shrimant Pratapsinh Rao Raje passed the University School Leaving Certificate Examination creditably.

Of the companions, V. K. Uplap and G. P. Dandnayak appeared in the University Examination but only Mr. Dandnayak passed. The Maratha companions Shirke and Powar did not appear for the Examination. The Maharaj-Kumar has joined the Baroda College. He has had a very successful cricket season. The total expenditure on this school amounted to Rs. 26,716 as against Rs. 27,432 of last year.

TECHNICAL EDUCATION

589. The Technical Institution popularly known as the "Kala-Bhavan", established in the year 1890, had for the first six years of its career been placed under the guidance and devoted care of the Late Professor T. K. Gajjar, a pioneer of Chemical Industry in this part of India. For nearly 18 years, since November 1908, the Principal C. H. Vora has been in charge of it. He was assisted in the work by a large and well qualified staff. The Kala-Bhavan continued its work in the same six branches of study as in the previous year. The branches are named in the table given below. Of these the first four however have in fact by now developed special courses to the point of their bifurcation into separate independent courses of study. These are respectively Architecture, Sanitary and Municipal Engineering, Electrical Engineering, and Technology of Soaps and Oils—each of them being in charge of a specialist. The number of students during the year under report is also given below:—

No.	Name of subjects	Five year average 1919-20 to 1923-24.	Number of students.	
			1924-25	1925-26
1	Art (Fine & Industrial)	70.6	72	63
2	Civil Engineering.	70.6	81	61
3	Mechanical Engineering.	112.2	124	126
4	Chemical Technology. (Dyeing-Bleaching and Calico- Printing).	64.2	46	36
5	Textile Manufacture.	83.2	59	31
6	Commerce.	30.4	22	20
Total		431.2	404	337

590. Out of the total of 337 students at the Kalabhavan
 Analysis of students. 147 i.e. nearly 44 percent were Baroda
 State students. Of these, 81 belonged to
 Baroda City and 66 to the Districts; the number from Baroda
 Kadi, Naosari and Amreli districts being 44, 6, 11 and 5
 respectively. The remaining 190 came from outside the State.
 Of these, 131 were from different parts and States of the
 Bombay Presidency. Of the remaining 69, the largest number
 this year, i.e. 21 came from the Punjab, 11 from the
 Central Provinces, 6 from Berar, 7 from Central India, and 5
 from Rajputana. The distant Provinces of Bengal and Assam
 sent 11 students, while 8 came from the Madras Presidency.

591. Principal Charles A. King of the Benares Hindu Uni-
 versity Engineering College was appo-
 Principal King as inted Consultant in the matter of further
 Consultant. development of the Kalabhavan, with
 a view to keep such development along lines of sound

progress and efficiency. He visited the Kalabhavan in March and September 1925, and stayed a week each time. The report which he submitted to Government after his visit in March 1925 has been published in the form of a Bulletin by the Department of Commerce and Industry. As a result of Principal King's recommendations, it was decided to postpone the purchase of new heavy machinery until the Workshop Sheds have been reconstructed, and for this latter purpose Rupees one lakh and three quarters have been sanctioned by Government.

592. Another recommendation of Principal King related to the appointment of a high class Machine-Drawing Instructor as Mr. King had found the teaching in that subject to be rather weak. Government accepted this recommendation and a temporary post of Rs. 250 in this subject was created to which Mr. Kedar Nath Sharma, B. Sc., (Engineering) Benares, was appointed. Mr. Nirmal Shankar Sompura, a practising architect of the fine style of Gujarat Hindu temple architecture was appointed as a lecturer on that subject on a special post created for the purpose.

A large number of highly trained and comparatively well-paid men have been appointed on the Kalabhavan staff and the present period is one of reconstruction in which a new tradition of hard work and high ideals will, it is hoped, be established.

593. The Kalabhavan Workshop Department is organised on a semi-independent basis. It supplies steam, mechanical power and working material to the students of the four technical branches of Kalabhavan at a certain charge per head. In addition to this, which is its main function, the Workshop manufactures a large amount of school and office furniture, and does a certain amount of foundry and other mechanical job-work. During the year under report the total value of both

Nazarpaga Workshop.

classes of work was Rs. 28,357-9-7 as against Rs. 38,708-11-1 in the previous year, the surplus or profit in this year becoming negative namely a loss of Rs. 1760-0-5. The scheme of re-organising the Workshops is now before Government.

594. There are at present four Industrial schools in the Districts, namely at Amreli, Pattan, District Industrial Petlad and Naosari. The Naosari Schools. Industrial school which is known as "The Tata Hunnar Shala" is conducted on grant-in-aid principle. Government bestows on it an annual grant of Rs. 3,400. All the schools continued to work as Primary Industrial schools along with imparting training in handi-crafts. These schools are interesting as they represent a successful experiment of attracting artisan children willingly. At the end of the year, the Amreli school had 207 students compared with 224 of the last year. Out of 207 students in the school 80 came from the artisan classes. The Patan and Petlad Industrial schools had during the year under report 414 and 368 pupils on the rolls as against 388 and 122 in the preceding year respectively, of which 88 and 60 belonged to the artisan communities. This shows some advancement even in their infancy.

595. The Baroda Juvenile Reformatory opened in the year 1913 under the Children's Court Reformatory. Act continued to be under the control of the Principal of the Kalabhavan. It had 11 inmates as against 22 of the last year. The large decrease was due to 9 inmates being released on the occasion of the celebrations of the Golden Jubilee of His Highness the Maharaja Saheb's reign. In addition to the standard primary course of studies the boys were taught carpentry and some agriculture and gardening; also some Boy-scouting. The expenditure for the year was Rs. 3987-4-0 as against Rs. 4017-11-8 of the last year.

596. The expenditure on the Kalabhavan including the Reformatory amounted to Rs. 1,11,007 Expenditure. compared to Rs. 1,14,331 of the last year.

and the income from fees and Workshop profits amounted to Rs. 13,399, compared to Rs. 12,573. The expenditure on the Amreli, Petlad and Patan Industrial schools amounted to Rs. 6,966 Rs. 5,540 and Rs. 5,394 respectively. Thus the total cost of technical and industrial education in the Baroda State including the annual grant-in-aid of Rs. 3,400 to the Tata Hunnar Shala at Naosari amounted to a total sum of Rs. 1,32,307 as against Rs. 1,31,113 of last year. The average annual cost of instruction per pupil at these six institutions came to Rs. 329, 362, 33, 13, 14 and 42 respectively for Kala-bhavan, the Reformatory, Amreli Industrial School, Petlad Industrial School, Patan Industrial School and Tata Hunnar Shala at Naosari.

PRIMARY EDUCATION

597. At the end of the year, there were 2,786 Government, 29 Aided and 63 Unaided Primary schools, and 2 Orphanages, making a total of 2,880 Institutions as against 2817 of last year. There were besides these 2 Training Colleges, including 1 for Women, 1 Patan Ayurvedic Pathshala, 5 Music schools, 4 Antyaja Boarding Houses, and 3 Boarding houses at Waghodia, Dwarka and Amroli (of the Tilakwada Mahal) making in all 2,901 Institutions.

The following table shows the number of Institutions and the number of pupils attending them :—

Year.	Boys' Schools, Girls' Schools,				Other Insti- tutions.		Total.	
	No. of schools	No. of pupils.	No. of schools	No. of pupils.	No. of schools	No. of pupils.	No. of schools	No. of pupils.
1924-25	2355	129033	369	66093	115	7587	2838	202,713
1925-26	2404	126066	368	66005	128	8115	2901	200,186.

598. The number of Kindergarten classes in the State during the year was 9 as against 10 of Kindergarten classes. last year, showing a decrease of 1. In some of these classes, arrangements are made to provide refreshments for the children during school hours. In response to the increasing demand from the people, some more Kindergarten classes are being started. These classes were attended during the year by 1178 children whose age varied between 4 and 6. Besides these, there were a few Kindergarten classes in the Taluka towns. The Kindergarten classes in general seem to grow in popularity and are able to command financial assistance from the public. Arrangements were made to supply qualified teachers to these classes in case a demand was made for them.

599. There were 29 Aided Primary schools under private management during the year under report. The total amount of grants received by these schools came to Rs. 6,727 as against Rs. 4987 in the preceding year. With a view to encourage private enterprise in this direction especially at those places where there are no Government schools, the Government had under consideration more liberal provision for grants-in-aid for primary teachers and it is expected in the scheme being put into effect, there will be more primary schools of this nature.

600. The amount of fines recovered under the Compulsory Education Act imposed on defaulters for not sending their children to schools and for non-attendance amounted during the year to Rs. 82,783; fines amounting to Rs. 26,952 were remitted. From the amount of fines recovered under the Compulsory measure, 5 per cent is given to Patels and Talatis as remuneration, 35 per cent is applied towards helping children of poor parents, and 60 per cent is utilized for erecting school buildings.

601. The total expenditure on all Primary schools amounted to Rs. 18,75,644 as against Rs. 15,19,818 of the last year, which gives an average of Rs. 675 per school as against Rs. 668 of the preceding year.

602. The idea of starting an institution for training teachers was first conceived in 1872, and accordingly a normal class for training teachers was opened without any Practising or Observation School in the beginning. This class was, however, closed in the year 1876, but was re-opened in 1885. After a notable career of 13 years, the College was closed in the year 1898. The present Training College for Men was brought into being in 1905 for training teachers already in State services. On the introduction of Compulsory Education in 1906-07, the necessity of training many other teachers became apparent. In 1908 the period of study was extended from 2 to 3 years, the curriculum was revised and the staff was increased. It was arranged to take up 250 students every year for training. In 1913, an additional Training College was opened which after some time was shifted to Patan. Two more First Year Training Classes were opened at Amreli and Navsari in 1918-19. With the exception of the Central Institution, all other classes were closed in the year 1922-23, as the need of training teachers was not so acute. In consideration of effecting possible retrenchment in the growing expenditure on education, besides closing the three districts Training Classes, the number of students in the Training College at Baroda, was also restricted. At the end of the year there were 185 students in the Institution of whom 112 attended the first year class, 43 the second year and 30 the third year class.

603. The Training College has two Practising Schools attached to it where practical instruction in the art of teaching is imparted to scholars studying in the College. The Practising Schools are staffed with experienced Third Year Trained Teachers.

604. The total expenditure on the Training College for Primary School teachers amounted to Rs. 48,318—as against Rs. 49,767 of the previous year.

605. The total number of Girls' Schools was 387, as against 385 of last year, and the number of girls learning in them was 31,415 as against 32,318 of the previous year. In addition to these, there were 35,854 girls studying in Mixed Schools which added to those learning exclusively in Girls' Schools brought the total number of girls receiving Primary education up to 67,269 showing a nominal decrease of 115. The Zanana class in Baroda had 63 pupils on the roll as against 67 last year. Besides these, there was one Aided Urdu Zanana Class at Kathore in the Navsari Division and another Unaided Class at Petlad.

606. As in the case of men teachers for the department, there is a Training College for Women Teachers also, located in a building of its own near Sursagar, under a specially trained Lady Principal, Mrs. Suchalata Pagar, A. M., B. S. (Columbia)

607. The number of women under training at the College when the year closed was 77, as against 69 of last year showing an increase of 8. Besides this, there was a Training Class for women originally started at Amreli and thence transferred to Mehsana, which had 29 pupils during the year as against 30 in last year.

608. A handsome building commanding a fine view of the Sursagar continued to be used as a Hostel for the College scholars. It was supervised by Mrs. Khory, the Lady Superintendent. During the year, it had 30 boarders of the Training College as against 41 of last year.

The scholars residing in the Boarding House were taken on short trips by Mrs. Khory to Dabka and Dabhoi.

609. The total expenditure on both the Training Institutions for women amounted to Rs. 19,285 as against Rs. 21,671 of last year.

610. Two hundred and thirty five schools were in existence for the education of the Depressed Antyaja Schools. Classes whose population in the Raj according to the last Census figures amounted to 1,76,821. Of these, five were exclusively for girls. The total number of Antyaja Children in these Schools was 9797 (9541 boys and 256 girls) as against 9,337, (9,072 boys and 265 girls) for last year showing an increase of 460. Besides, these, 4606 Antyaja children were learning in the ordinary Gujarati Primary Schools, which brought the total number of such children receiving Primary instruction to 14,403. There were 180 boys learning English in the Antyaja Schools at Baroda, Unza, Pattan and Navsari. Besides these, there were seven students studying in the Baroda High School and in the Maharani Girls' High School. Government continued to give books and other school requisites free to all these children while a fairly decent number had boarding and lodging arrangements made for them at Government expense in the Antyaja Boarding Houses. Scholarships of the aggregate value of Rs. 122 per mensem were awarded to Antyaja children in Primary Schools and 10 scholarships of the aggregate value of Rs. 54 per mensem were awarded in the Secondary Schools. In the Training College at Baroda, 9 Antyaja scholars were reading for the different courses along with other high caste Hindu scholars. The Antyaja Boarding Houses at Baroda, Navsari and Amreli had 46, 30 and 28 boarders respectively. Lodging, boarding etc. were as usual provided free by Government.

611. For the administration of the donation of Rs. 15,000 given by Sheth Jugal Kishore Birla of Calcutta in the year 1919, a committee of three members had been constituted.

Sheth Jugal Kishore
Birla donation.

The committee with donor's wishes continued to utilise the amount of interest accruing from the donation in giving prizes of the value of Rs. 200 to students passing with credit in the Gita Course, and another set of an equivalent amount to those who stood high in Essay writing and another Rs. 200 in giving suitable honoraria to teachers who read the Geeta.

612. As in the last year there were five Boarding Schools for Dhanka boys at Songadh, Vyara, Education of forest Mahuwa, Anaval and Wankal. The tribes. Girls' Boarding School with 49 girls at Songhad established for the education of the Forest tribes worked well and showed satisfactory progress during the year. The Boys' School at Songadh and Vyara had Model Farms attached to them where the boarders got lessons in practical agriculture. The influence of these Schools on the lives of these animistic people has so far been strikingly good. The schools try to make them good agriculturists and efficient teachers. In fact, they have been greatly helpful in ameliorating the condition of the Kaliparaj community. All possible measures are being taken to make them better men and useful members of a progressive community by opening further avenue of education for these people. The total expenditure on the six Dhanka Boarding Schools amounted to Rs. 25,877 as against Rs. 19,088 last year.

613. Suitable provision for the education of Mahomedans has also been made. There were 119 Urdu Schools. Urdu Schools of which 92 were boys' Schools which were attended by 6391 boys and 27 were Girls' Schools which were attended by 1655 girls. Over and above these 8424 Moslem children attended the ordinary Gujarati Schools. The total number of Mahomedan children receiving education in the State came to 16,470 giving a percentage of 10.2 as against 10.3 of last year.

614. The education of the Waghers of Okhamandal on lines similar to those adopted in the Education of Waghers at Dwarka. case of the Kaliparaj tribes of Songadh and Vyara was first undertaken in the

month of November 1920 by starting a Wagher Boarding House at Dwarka. A marked improvement in their mode of life is noticeable. They are gradually bestirring to avail themselves of the benefits of education brought to their very doors. During the year there were 22 Wagher boys in the Boarding House as against 23 last year. These boys attended the local Vernacular and English Schools. It is gratifying to note that some of these boys have been showing good progress. The total expenditure of the Boarding House amounted to Rs. 3301-11-1 as against Rs. 3909-1-8 in the preceding year.

615. Amongst the special institutions maintained by the department were the orphanage at Amreli, which had 46 inmates against 50 in the previous year, the Creeche where the number (42) remained the same as in 1924/25, the two schools for defectives at Baroda and Mehsana, the Jail School attached to the Central Jail at Baroda for the benefit of the convicts and the seven schools attached to the several regiments of the Baroda Army. In addition to these there were during the year 5 Government, 2 aided, and 5 unaided Sanskrit Schools, and 5 music schools at important centres in the State.

616. Gymnasium teachers were attached to most of the important Secondary and Primary Schools. The Physical culture work in the City has partly been placed under the guidance of the Scout Organisation and partly under that of the Gymnasium Inspector who was assisted by trained Gymnasium teachers. The scholars in the Training College for Women were taught by a lady teacher. In some of the Girls' Schools physical instruction is imparted by women teachers trained under Miss Macdonald. The scholars in the Training College for Men continued to receive systematic training in gymnastics and games by a graduate teacher trained in Madras.

617 The Scout movement in the State has been in existence of for over seven years and has given ample proof of its usefulness. During the year under report there were

Scout Centres and Troops.

52 troops as against 45 last year. The wolf club movement was definitely started through the Vernacular Teachers' Training Camp at Navsari and we have this year 24 packs as against nil last year. The total Scout census this year increased from 1864 to 2124 with 720 cubs. The Scout census excludes 700 boys who are yet under training for the tenderfoot test.

618. At the beginning of the year a wolf-cub training camp was opened at Navsari for the Vernacular Teachers' Training Camp at Navsari & Cub-training. Vernacular Teachers and twenty suitable young men passed through the training as Cub Masters. All instruction was passed on through the vernaculars and these teachers have shown good work with their Cub packs during the year. Scout and Cub training was initiated at the Male Training College and hereafter every batch of trained teachers that will leave the College will be able to conduct Scout and Cub work in the vernacular schools of the Raj.

619. Under Government sanction a Scout masters' Training Camp was held during the May vacation and 42 candidates passed through the training course satisfactorily. Of these 32 came from the State schools and 10 came from outside as private candidates. Morvi and Chhota Udaipur deputed their teachers for the training.

620. The total expenditure on the Scout Organisation was Rs. 11,220 as against Rs. 11,193/- of last year. From the statistical figures of expenditure of the last few years, it could be seen that even with the reduced expenditure the organisation was spreading rapidly. In fact, it was trying to be self-supporting without impairing its efficiency.

621. The Translation Branch of the Vidyadhikari office Encouragement to continued. Out of the interest of Literature. Rs. 2,00,000 endowed by His Highness the Maharaja Saheb for the enrichment of Vernacular

literature, the work of preparation and publication of volumes in the two series " Shree Sayaji Sahitya Mala " and " Shree Sayaji Bahmyana Mala " was pursued. During the year 19 new volumes were published in both the Series bringing the total to 408. It is gratifying to note that one book of the Sahitya Mala viz. " Dalpanam " was prescribed as a text book in Gujarati by the University of Bombay for the School Leaving Certificate Examination, and that the books of the smaller series were also sanctioned as prize and library books in the Education Department of the Bombay Presidency.

LIBRARIES

622. At the Central Library, 2138 new volumes were purchased and 686 were received as gifts, bringing the total to 1,02,210. Books purchased, received as gifts etc. by the Library. The number of registered borrowers was 3629 and the total circulation of books came to 75,555 consisting of 25,653 English 24,420 Gujarati 20,641 Marathi, 1,504 Sanskrit, 3,337 Hindi and Urdu books, during the 260 days during which the lending Library was open. This works out at a daily average of 290.59 volumes. The Mahula Library and the Children's section attached to the Central Library carried on their useful activities during the year.

623. Thirty nine printed books and three manuscripts were purchased for the Sanskrit section. Sanskrit section. At the end of the year the section had 13,149 manuscripts, 2 having been returned to their rightful owners. There were 6,018 printed books in stock. 1504 books were circulated in this section. Good progress was made during the year, five volumes having been completed and published in the Gaekwar's Oriental Series. Progress was also made in the preparation of 12 other volumes and some of them have duly been sent to the Press. The Gaekwar's Oriental Series continues to be well received and evokes very favourable appreciative remarks from scholars well known for their oriental learning and erudition.

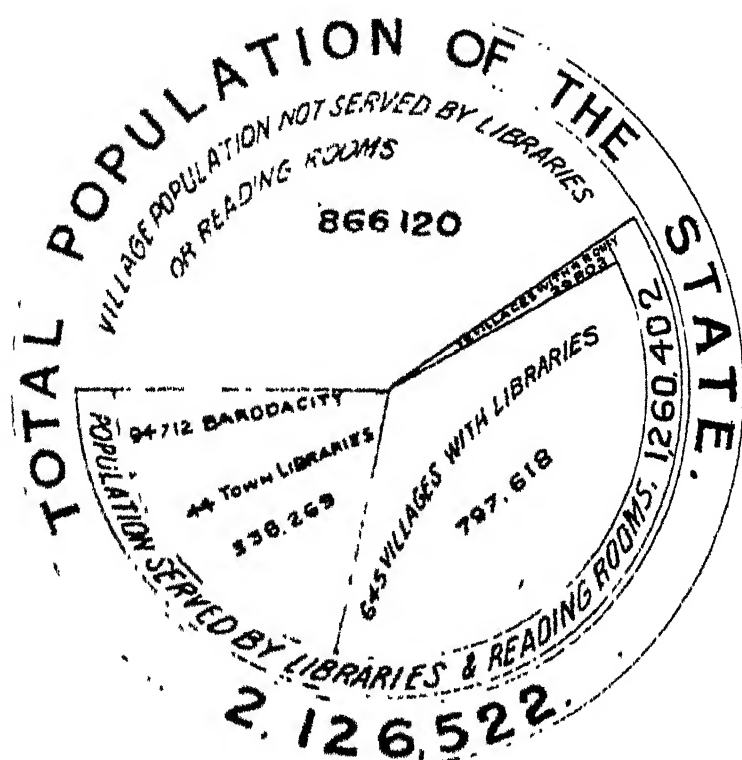
624. At the close of the year there were 44 Town and District Libraries. Prant Libraries, all of which have been located in buildings of their own. These libraries had in aggregate stock of 189,196 volumes and circulated 163,149 books amongst their 18,465 readers. The total number of Village Libraries during the year was 645. The Village Libraries had an aggregate stock of 222,597 volumes and circulated 79,758 of them amongst 32,928 readers. There were during the year also 87 Reading Rooms in the State. The Assistant Curator toured for 82 days during the year and visited 22 Town Libraries and 10 Village Libraries. The Village Libraries, as usual, were also inspected by the inspecting Officers of the Education Department.

625. Despite the severe damage done to its stock and boxes and the confusion caused by the Travelling Libraries. serious fire which occurred in the Library in October 1925, this section has good progress to report. 11,166 volumes were circulated in 121 centres in 299 boxes. Last year the circulation was 13,306. The issuing of books had to be held up for nearly four months while the whole collection was checked in order to discover the number of books destroyed and damaged in the fire. At the end of the year this Section had a stock of 16,578 volumes

626. The Cinema Operator continued his tours in the districts as usual and gave 23 Shows with the Standard Machine and 16 with the Small KOK Projector and 13 with the Magic Lantern in the City and two districts, to the people of several towns and villages which were attended by 11,832 men, 5,093 women and 6,260 children. Special Shows were also given at Ahmedabad during the Baby Week and in Dahod during the Bhil Conference. Two Magic Lantern Lectures were given in the Palace before His Highness the Maharaja Saheb.

DIAGRAM SHOWING POPULATION OF THE STATE
SERVED BY LIBRARIES AND READING ROOMS.

1926.



Total Population served	59.27 percent.
" " not served	40.73 "
Town Population served	100 "
Village Population served	47.10 "
" " not served	52.90 "

627. A serious fire occurred at the Central Library during the year on the 10th October 1925. Fire at the Library. The staff of the Library, many officials of the State and a large number of volunteers rendered useful help on the occasion. However, the damage done was serious. Fortunately the books were insured against fire. The Insurance Company accepted the claims and paid for the damage out of which the stock destroyed is being replaced.

628. The expenditure of the Library Branch of the Department amounted to Rs 99,107-0-5 as against Rs. 89,571-11-4 last year.

MUSEUM

629. At the Museum and the Picture Gallery during the year a fine collection of old China of New acquisition at the Museum and the Picture Gallery. different dynasties, such as, Lung, Sung, Quan, etc., number of water colour paintings of Moghul and Persian periods, Jade work of Chinese and Mongol workmanship, Jaipur Enamels, Crystal figures, etc. were purchased by order of His Highness the Maharaja Sahib for the Museum. The Tibetan jewelled articles acquired for the Museum are suitably displayed in a room of the Picture Gallery. In one of the basement rooms of the Museum, painted clay figures, executed by a Bombay Modeller, depicting the Fall of the Peshwa, social and religious scenes, etc are exhibited on stands. The total expenditure on account of the Museum and the Picture Gallery during the year was Rs. 28073-3-5 as against Rs. 85,325-9-3 of the last year.

630. Dr. Stella Kraussch of the University of Calcutta, Captain Solomon of the Sir J. J. School Popular Lectures. of Arts, Bombay and Dr. Radha Kumud Mukerjee of the University of Lucknow delivered lectures on Indian Sculpture, Indian Art and Asoka respectively. As His Highness the Maharaja Sahib was to attend these lectures they were held in one of the Halls of the Laxmi Vilas Palace.

631. With a view to recognise out-standing merit in Literature, Arts or Science, by the awards of prizes, titles and medals to eminent persons in the respective departments, His Highness the Maharaja Saheb sanctioned the Shrimant Sayajirao Gaekwar Prize Rules during this year. Dr. Radhakumud Mookerjee M.A., Ph.D. was selected as the first prizeman under these rules for his researches in ancient Indian History and was awarded a prize of Rs. 1000 and an annuity of Rs. 1,200 for five years. He was also honoured with a Poshak and the title of Raj Itihaskar. Another recipient of the prize was the late Mr. Fanindra Bose, the well-known sculptor, who was awarded the title of Raj Shilpakar and a Poshak on the occasion at the Golden Jubilee Darbar.

CHAPTER IX

HEALTH

A. Medical Relief

632. The strength of the Medical Institutions in the State including Hospitals and Dispensaries of all denominations increased from 86 to 87. Calculating the ratio existing between the number of Medical Institutions and the population of the whole Raj, it now stands at one Institution for 24,409 souls of the population against 24,493 souls of the population in the preceding year.

633. The periodical Dispensary at Velachha was established permanently. The two travelling dispensaries in the Vajpur and Sadadvel Range were made permanent.

634. The Unani Dispensary established along with the Mahamadwadi Dispensary was ordered to be continued for 4 years.

635. An Infirmary styled after Shrinant Pilajirao was opened in Baroda City by His Highness the Maharaja Sahib and arrangements are being made by the Department to run it shortly.

636. Dr. M. H. Sajjad, a Dental Specialist, on Rs. 500 p.m. was appointed at the State General Hospital for a year as an experiment. An appointment of a Swedish and Medical Masseur was also made at the State General Hospital.

STATISTICS OF PATIENTS

637. The total number of patients treated during the year under report was 602,056 (254,373 men, 127,429 women, 220,254 children) against 601,537 (247,025 men, 122,265 women, 232,247 children) in the preceding year. Out of these 594461 were Out-Door patients and 7595 Indoor patients with an average daily attendance of 8325.27 in the case of the former and 1045.21 of the latter against 6711.81 and 426.926 respectively in the preceding year. Of the In-patients 5205 were discharged cured, 1,552 relieved, 149 relieved without improvement, 280 died and 409 remained under treatment at the end of the year. The percentage of deaths amongst the In-patients was 3.6 against 4.1 in the preceding year.

638. Of the total number of patients treated 482,150 were
 Patients treated according to castes. Hindoos, 89,029 Mohomedans, 8,417
 Parsees and 22,460 belonging to other
 castes against 477,390, 89,790, 13,070
 and 21,287 respectively.

OPERATIONS

639. During the year under report 34169 surgical operations were performed on 34,128 persons with a mortality of 0.1 against 33681 with a mortality of 0.1 in the preceding year. The mean number of surgical operations performed during the triennium ending 1925-26 was 33739 against 32692 in the preceding year. The average number of persons operated on during the triennium 1923-26 was 33572 with a mortality of 0.09 as compared to a mortality of 0.09 amongst persons operated on during 1920-23.

PREVAILING DISEASES

640. The most common diseases for which patients sought medical treatment at the various
 Prevailing Diseases. Hospitals and Dispensaries in the State during the year under report are roughly tabulated in the form below:—

Name of Diseases	1925-26	1924-25
Malarial Fevers	1,08,260	1,20,137
Diseases of the Skin	41,076	34,660
" " Eye	63,695	75,289
" " Ear	35,354	35,631
" " Nose	2,574	2,914
" Throat, & Respiratory System...	34,318	31,211
Local Injuries	22,172	20,834
Diseases of the Nervous System ...	15,347	14,460
Diseases of the Intestinal Worms ...	7,522	8,719
Dyspepsia	20,746	19,246
Rheumatic Affections	13,408	12,263
Diarrhoea... ..	11,571	13,392
Dysentery... ..	8,352	8,624
Venereal Diseases	5,864	5,616
Tubercular Diseases	2,483	1,785

641. Average daily attendance at the State General Hospital of indoor and out-door patients was 193.04 and 508.9 against 183.6 and 374.8 respectively in the preceding year.

642. During the year 1696 operations (including 533 selected major operations) were performed against 1219 (including 421 selected major operations) in the preceding year.

643. During the year 326 maternity cases came to the Maternity Home against 195 in the preceding year. Of the 326 cases admitted 312 were discharged well, and 13 died.

644. Of these 211 were cases of full term, normal labour, 30 premature labours 25 abortions, 8 full term breech and 2 full term twins making a total of 274. There was no maternal mortality amongst these 274 cases. Of the 211 full term babies, two died, 1 of congenital Syphilis and 1 from Congenital Malformation of the Oesophagus. Of the 30 premature babies only 7 were discharged

well, 7 died soon after birth and 18 were still births (2 premature twins). The majority of these infants' death were due to Congenital Syphilis.

The Maternity Home has received various gifts from friends and from patients. Her Highness the Maharani Saheb of Kolhapur sent 24 babies' blankets on the occasion of her visit to the Maternity Ward and 3 children's cots, one child's pen were received from other friends and patients.

645. The total number of patients, both indoor and outdoor treated at the X-Ray Department. was 2990 out of which 1995 were out-patients and 995 were in-patients against 2848, out of which 2304 were out-patients and 544 were in-patients in the previous year.

646. 4,852 specimens of Pathological interest and of various other kinds were examined at the Bacteriology. Bacteriological Laboratory against 5,310 in the preceding year. The decrease was due to the decrease in routine urine examination which was carried out in the previous year and which was stopped this year.

647. Anti-Rabic treatment was started during the year and 21 patients were treated by the Bacteriologist. Total number of injections given was 257 for Anti Rabic treatment. Anti-Rabic treatments.

648. The total number of patients at the Mental Hospital during the year was 119 against 105 in the preceding year. Out of these, 27 were discharged cured, 22 relieved or discharged otherwise (at the request of the guardians or relatives), 12 died and 58 remained under treatment at the end of the year. Mental Hospital.

649. The total expenditure in connection with the Institution excluding the cost of medicines and instruments amounted to Rs. 13,261-5-8 against Rs. 12,549-1-8 in the previous year. Expenditure.

650. The number of lepers treated at the Ansuya Leper Asylum during the year was 107 against 114 in the preceding year. Out of 107 cases treated, 37 absented and 11 died and 59 remained under treatment at the end of the year. Out of the total number remaining under treatment, 2 had simple tubercular type, 13 mixed type and the remaining 44 the anæsthetic type. The number of out-door patients besides the inmates of the Asylum treated during the year was 3,030 against 2,913 in the previous year.

651. The total expenditure on the Leper Asylum during the year was Rs. 11,812-8-10 against Rs. 11,875-10-0 in the previous year and Rs. 11,142-12-7 in the year 1,923-24.

652. The Medico-legal cases involving an analysis of 400 articles of different kinds were investigated at the Chemical Laboratory during the year against 91 in the previous year. Besides, there were 16 miscellaneous (milk, ghee, &c.) cases investigated during the year against 16 in the previous year. Out of these 56 cases of suspected human poisoning which were investigated during the year, poison was actually detected in 18 cases, opium being the most common drug found administered as an agent of destruction of human life, amongst the various kinds of poisons detected during analysis.

653. The total expenditure on the maintenance of the Chemical Laboratory amounted to Rs. 6,280-6-9 against Rs. 5,787-7-4 in the previous year.

654. The total number of patients treated at the Jail Hospital during the year was 866 against 713 in the previous year. Of these, 803 were discharged cured, 20 relieved, 4 died and 30 remained under treatment at the end of the year.

655. There were 4 deaths recorded against 6 in the previous year, showing a gradual improvement in the mortality at the Jail, owing to greater attention paid to sanitation and general hygienic conditions at the Jail together with greater care and attention bestowed on the sick treated at the Jail Hospital. Of the 4 deaths, 3 were due to Pulmonary Tuberculosis and 1 to Diarrhoea. The incidence of death rate per mille of average Jail population (750) works out at 5.4 as against 9.6 in the previous year.

Total mortality and its comparison.

MEDICAL RELIEF FOR WOMEN

656. In addition to the 2 City Midwives there is a third one attached to the Jamnabai dispensary who attends labour cases in the City. The total number of labour cases attended to by the City Midwives was 388 against 184 in the previous year.

Number of labour cases attended by the City Midwives.

657. The Maternity Home located on the upper floor of the Jamnabai dispensary has been the means of offering relief to 324 parturient females in the year against 240 in the previous year. Out of the 324 in-patients at the Jamnabai Maternity Home, 238 were discharged cured, 70 relieved, 5 absented, 4 died and 7 were under treatment at the end of the year.

Number of patients treated at the Jamnabai Maternity Home.

658. The number of district midwives was 16 during the year against 16 in the preceding year. The number of labour cases conducted by them was 358 against 258 in the previous year.

Number of district Midwives and number of cases conducted by them.

659. There was no epidemic during the year in the State, the number of Cholera cases reported being 2 and plague cases also 2.

Epidemic.

660. The total expenditure of the department was Rs. 6,86,730-0-9 against Rs. 6,41,195 in the previous year. The causes of increase in expenditure are mainly due to the following:—

1. Appointment of a Dentist.
2. „ of a Medical Officer at Visnagar.
3. Transfer of services of Masseur from the Khangi Department.
4. Appointment of a Lady Doctor at Visnagar.
5. State General Hospital bills for previous year.

661. The total income realised from various sources was Rs. 69,774-5-3 against Rs. 1,11,107 in the previous year and Rs. 47,285-0-4 in the year 1923-24.

662. The net expenditure on the upkeep of the State General Hospital excluding the amount spent on medicines and instruments amounted to Rs. 2,22,624-7-5 against Rs. 2,09,205-5-5.

663. The amount of expenditure during the year on the purchase of medicines, surgical instruments and appliances was Rs. 1,66,000 against Rs. 1,57,000 in the previous year. A sum of Rs. 1,00,000 was granted for reserve stock and Rs. 1,500 for purchasing packing materials.

664. The amount of Rs. 4,141-13-2 was realised from the Poor Box collections in the various Medical institutions during the year as against Rs. 3,846-5-9 in the preceding year.

665. At several other institutions charitable gifts in the shape of medicines and instruments were thankfully received from the Local Boards.

666. The Khangi and Military Departments contributed as usual Rs. 50,967-14-4 and Contribution. Rs. 17,955-10-5 towards the maintenance of the Palace Dispensary and the Military Medical Institutions respectively.

B. Vital Statistics

SANITATION

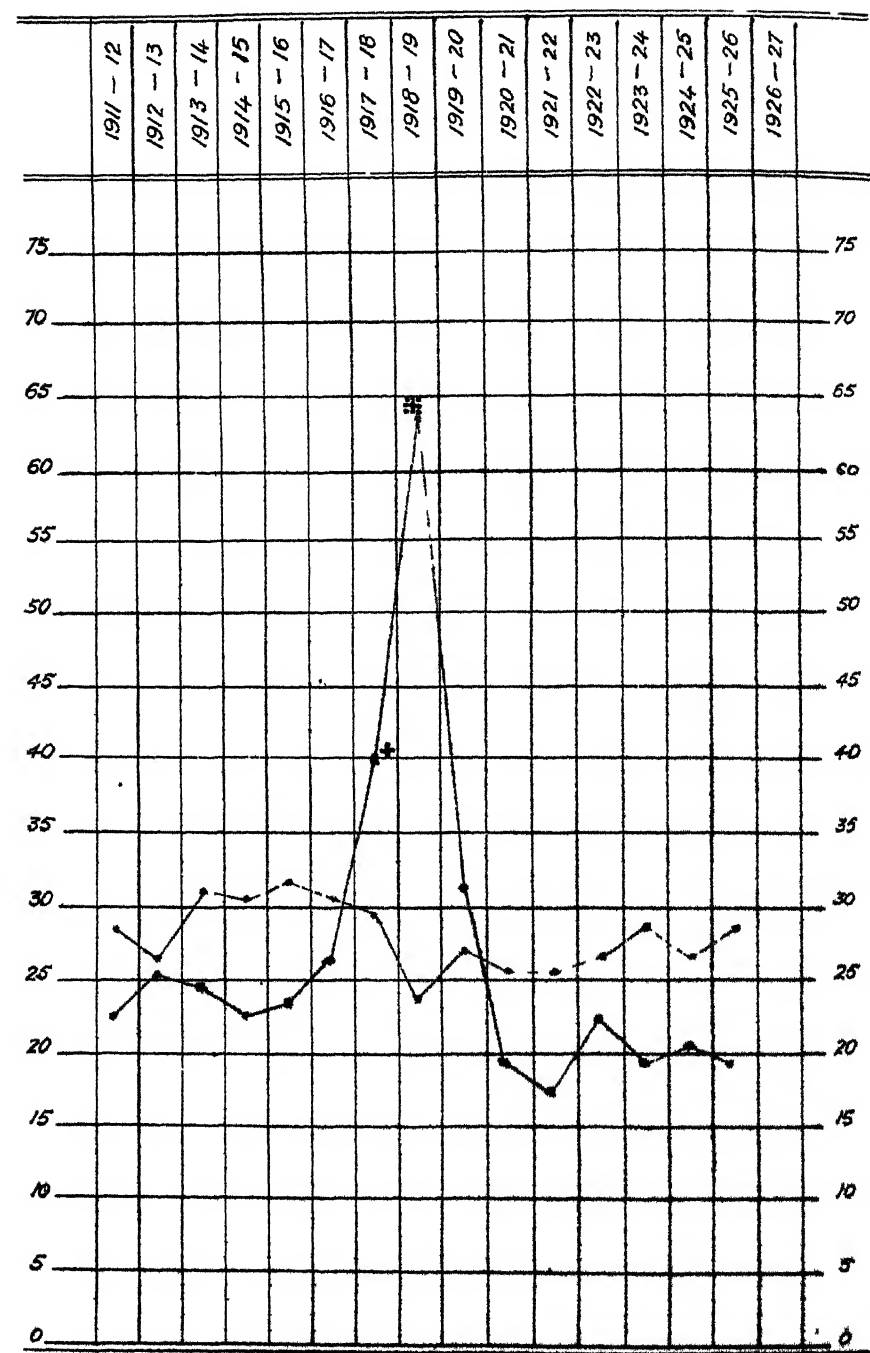
667. The following are among the chief duties performed by the Sanitary department:—
Duties.

- (1) Annual inspection of Municipal and Vishishta Panchayat Offices and supervision over sanitary works in the State.
- (2) Supervision over Registration of births and deaths and compilation of the vital statistics.
- (3) Vaccination.
- (4) Sanitary propaganda through lectures with magic lantern.
- (5) Recording of Meteorological observations.

668. The Sanitary Commissioner toured for 135 days in all during the year against 120 days in Inspection and tours. the preceding year throughout the four Prants for inspection and other duties. 35 towns and 40 villages were visited as against 25 towns and 13 villages in the previous year. Necessary suggestions for Sanitary improvements were made to the different Municipal and Panchayat Institutions as well as to the Revenue authorities. Wherever possible small improvements were made on the spot.

In some of the towns with municipalities and Vishishth Panchayats, informal meetings of the members were held wherein sanitary defects and mistakes in the registration of births and deaths were discussed and remedies suggested.

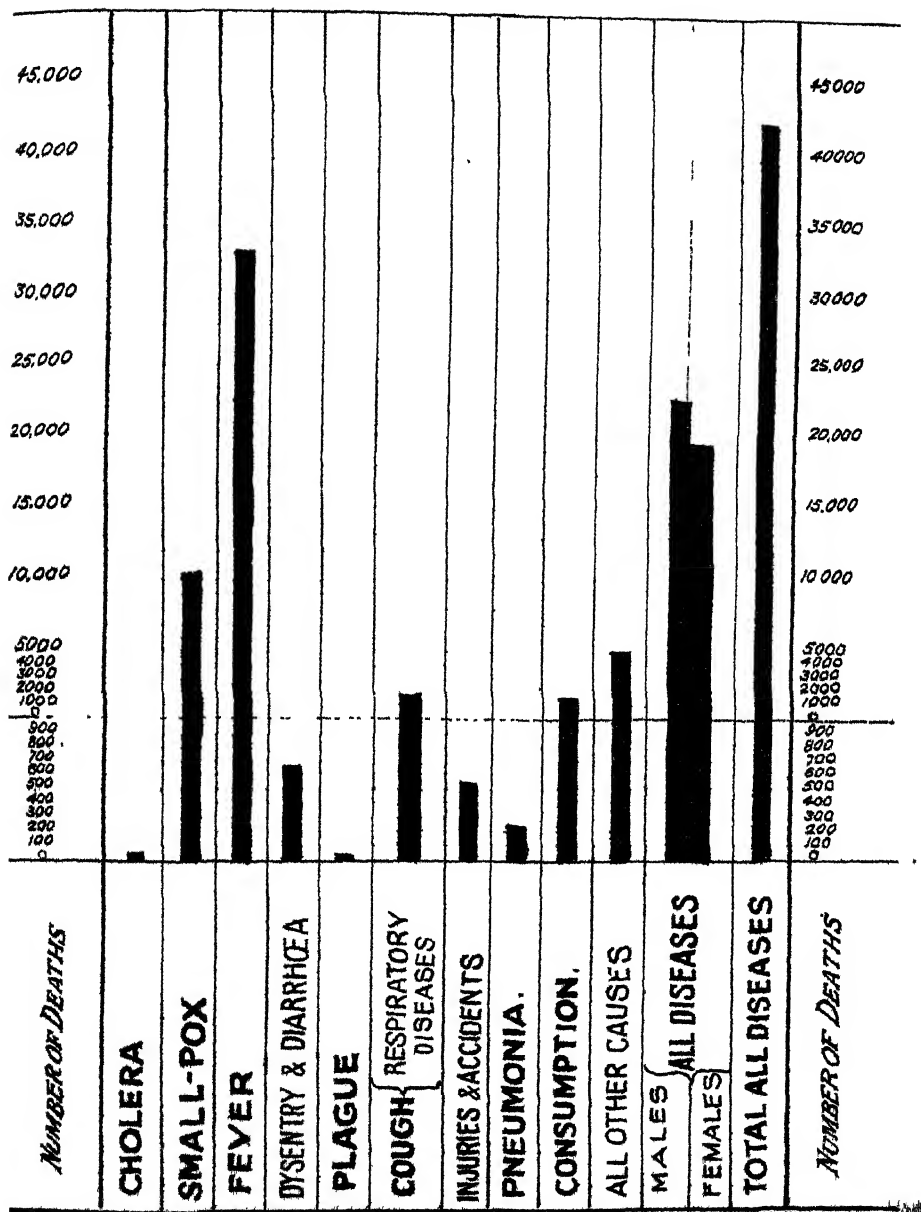
from 1911-12 to 1925-26



INFLUENZA * BIRTH —●—
PLAGUE + DEATH

M. P. M.

STATE IN 1925-1926.



W. Mansell

Sanitary Commission

VITAL STATISTICS

669. The following table will show the comparison of births and deaths in the whole state during the year under report and the previous 3 years:—

Year.	Number of births.	Number of deaths.	Ratio of births per mille of population.	Ratio of deaths per mille of population.
1922-23...	56,183	48,506	26.4	22.8
1923-24...	60,223	42,404	28.3	19.3
1924-25...	56,235	44,428	26.4	20.9
1925-26...	60,364	42,438	28.4	19.9

These figures show that there was an increase of 4129 births and a decrease of 1990 deaths as compared with the figures of the last year.

Of the total number of births there were 31,999 males and 28,365 females i.e. for every 100 female births 112.8 male births were registered.

Similarly of the total number of deaths 22,485 were among males and 19,953 among females i.e. for every 100 female deaths 112.6 male deaths were registered, which show that in the case of births and deaths the figures for males predominate over those of females.

Causes of deaths

Causes of deaths.	Number of deaths.	Ratio per mille of population.
Fever	32,991	15.5
Plague	6	0.002
Cholera	15	0.007
Small-pox	1,033	0.46
Dysentery and Diarrhoea	678	0.31
Cough (other Respiratory diseases) ...	1,425	0.67
Pneumonia	240	0.11
Consumption	1,142	0.53
Injuries and Accidents	509	0.23
All other causes	4,399	2.07
Total	42,438	19.9

From these figures it would appear that deaths from fever predominated over those from other diseases forming nearly 77 % of the total.

The term 'fever' includes malaria, enteric fever and other diseases with symptoms of fever not classified in the above list. Even some deaths from Influenza might have been included under the heading of fever.

On recent inquiry at Navsari for malarial survey and seeing the figures of the last ten years it appears that above 40 p.c. of the total deaths were due to malarial fever.

Malaria is the chief Sanitary problem of the State. The Municipalities and the local bodies should take up this problem more seriously and start anti-malaria and anti-mosquito campaign in right earnest. It is gratifying to note that Navsari Prant has taken the lead in the matter and anti-malaria work has been started in Navsari and Songadh.

VACCINATION

670. The following table shows the number of persons primarily vaccinated and re-vaccinated during the year as compared with the previous year.

Persons.	Primary Vaccination.		Re-Vaccination.	
	1925-26.	1924-25.	1925-26.	1924-25.
Males.	33,628	34,092	3,076	3,256
Females	31,062	31,514	774	615
Total ...	64,690	65,606	3,850	3,871

The total number of persons vaccinated during the year was 68,540 against 69,477 in the preceding year. Thus there was a decrease of 937 on the whole.

The number of successful primary vaccinations was 62,687, the percentage of success being 96.9 and the number of successful re-vaccinations was 3085, while the rate of protection afforded per mille of population per annum was 32.2 against 32.7 in the preceding year.

The aggregate realization of fees credited to Government for vaccinating children at their houses was Rs. 516-8-0 against Rs. 508-12-0 in the previous year.

The total expenditure on account of vaccination was Rs. 41,702-15-1 during the year against Rs. 40,469-15-11 in the preceding year.

METEOROLOGY

671. There is a second class Meteorological station in the Baroda City. The results of the readings taken at the Baroda College Observatory during the year showed that 110.6 F was the maximum temperature recorded in May 1926 and 44.5 F the minimum one in December 1925.

Meteorological
Station.

672. The Barometer average monthly records were highest (29.922) in December 1925, and the lowest (29.451) in July 1926.

Barometer.

The prevailing winds during the greater part of the year had south and south-westerly component. The daily velocity of wind varied from 48 miles in January 1926 to 207 miles in June 1926. The average daily velocity was 114 miles during the year.

The average daily humidity was 40 against 46 in the preceding year.

The highest temperature recorded in the year was 115° F at Savali Dispensary in the month of June 1926, and the lowest 39° F at Dhari Battalion dispensary in the month of December 1925.

The highest rainfall was 66.31 inches at Kodinar and the lowest 7.51 in at Ratanpur,

SPECIAL FEATURES

Anti-Malarial Work in Navsari Prant

673. During the year, the Chief Medical Officer accompanied by the Sanitary Commissioner and the Suba of the Navsari Prant toured together to inspect and find out how the anti-malarial work started last year was proceeding. It was found that the Navsari Municipality had unfortunately done away with the services of the Medical Officer and the staff was not quite sufficient to deal with the work to be done. The Vice President of the Municipality was approached in the matter and requested to continue the campaign with the same vigour. As a result of inspection were found a great many mosquito breeding places ; and mostly anophele mosquitoes were found, whereas in Songhad though there were fewer mosquito breeding places, a large number of people had got enlarged spleen and parasites in blood.

The problem at Songhad is chiefly concerned with parasite destruction, and that at Navsari with mosquito reduction.

A report was submitted to Government regarding the spread of Malaria and mosquitoes in the Baroda City when orders were passed by the Government appointing a committee to investigate the matter. The committee is investigating the whole problem with a view to recommend practical measures that would strike at the root of the problem.

Another committee is appointed to investigate into the spread of Tuberculosis in the Baroda City and for suggesting the best methods of stopping its spread among the people. The Report of the committee will be submitted when the investigations are completed.

A Baby Week and Health Exhibition was arranged at Gandevi which was a great success. A Kali Paraj child was amongst the prize winners. During the Golden Jubilee celebrations a very successful Baby Week and Health Exhibition was held at Petlad.

The Medical Inspection of School Children at Baroda was carried out by the Sub-Assistant Surgeons under the supervision and guidance of the Hon. Secretary to the Shree Maharani Chimanabai Maternity League.

One important problem awaiting solution is the over-crowding found in many of the villages in the Navsari District. Asta for instance has grown in population and prosperity and needs a Gamthan for its surplus population. Such extensions should be properly laid out on sanitary principles.

CHAPTER X

CONCLUSION.

674. The year 1925-26 might well be called the year of the Golden Jubilee. The occasion of the completion of 50 years of the benign reign of His Highness the Maharaja Saheb was duly celebrated in all parts of the State in the beginning of 1926. It was also an occasion of laying the foundation stone of the Kirti Mandir or the Temple of Fame and the opening of the Poor House. The repeal of the Cotton Excise Duty on the production of cotton cloth was announced on this occasion together with the remission of a large amount of land revenue arrears. The Jubilee Celebrations were soon followed by those in connection with H. E. the Viceroy's visit, and the foundation stone of the Science Institute on the grounds of the College was laid.

675. The year formed another link in the long chain of surplus budgets. The receipt showed an increase of about 40 lakhs over the expenditure and the financial position of the State was sounder to that extent than the previous year. The State held at the end of the year more than seven crores and a half in reproductive investments with over a crore and a half in cash available at short notice. Our Railway investments now amount to about 4 crores and a half, yielding a return of about 3.15 per cent, in addition to the general development and prosperity effected in the areas served.

676. When deficit budgets are tending to become a normal state of affairs in many parts of the country and in the world at large, owing to the years of turmoil and trouble that we have recently left behind, the maintenance of solvent

finances in the State is a gratifying feature mainly due to the wise guidance of His Highness and the anxious care of His Highness' Government to carry out the policy laid down by His Highness.

677. Our surplus budgets have evoked some criticism in some quarters and a word of explanation will not be out of place here. More than half of our revenue is drawn from the land in one form or the other, and in a country where agriculture is the most predominant industry, it would not be prudent to arrange our finances on the understanding that the comparatively good years that we have experienced of late would repeat themselves without any break. Years of scarcity and famine that form a part of a cycle are not less known to us and a due provision has to be made for them. In the bad years while there is an increased demand on the resources of the State for relief and other works, the income dwindles down to very small proportions. But for a good credit balance created in prosperous years, it would indeed be impossible to meet the double strain and maintain the solvency of the State. It is with this view in mind that His Highness has very wisely laid down the policy of having at least one year's average revenue as cash savings. This policy also found an echo in a resolution in the Legislative Council during the year which asked to pile up a reserve equivalent to a normal year's revenue. Our efforts for some years past have been in this direction and they are getting nearer the mark every year.

678. In this connection one has also to bear in mind that our programme of development works in the State is by no means completed. There are works of an urgent nature both in connection with our Railway and Road programmes. There is a constant demand from the districts for various facilities. The needs of the people are growing and the maintenance of efficient service is getting more costly. It has always been the care of His Highness' Government to see

that the real needs of the people are met economically consistently with the efficiency of the service through which these needs are supplied. In view of these things the annual expenditure shows some increase every year. The net increase in disbursements over the last year's expenditure is about three lakhs and a half. It was five lakhs last year.

679. This year's season was perhaps the last in the cycle of lean years with regard to the intensity of rainfall and we are now, we hope at the beginning of a new era of plentiful precipitation. The variations of rainfall according to the districts for the last ten years has been brought out in graphical form in the chart facing page 120. And it will be seen therefrom that excepting Okhamandal, it fell short of the average in all other districts. North-west Kadi suffered most as also certain tracts in Amreli and Okhamandal. The proportion of the realisation of the land revenue to the total demand remained at 99%. Land revenue to the extent of Rs. 5,10,911 had to be suspended and Rs. 67,798 had to be remitted in the affected areas.

680. Agriculture is the staple occupation of the people and no less than 68 per cent of His Highness' subjects are employed therein. The Gujarat agriculturist is fairly intelligent and industrious, and though he loves his profession, he is absolutely dependent upon the monsoon rains for the success of his agricultural labours. He knows pretty well that the monsoon is generally fitful, and that the weather has its vagaries. He is, however, lukewarm in his attempts to get over the difficulties created by the uncertainty of the rains, and his conservatism does not permit of his availing himself of the immense possibilities of science in the field of agriculture.

681. Government are trying through the agency of the Agriculture Department to see how far Indian conditions would allow modernity to be superimposed on our traditional systems of agriculture with advantage.

Modernising Indian conditions of Agriculture.

It is also the effort of the Government to place before the agriculturist, proper means whereby evil effects of uncertain rains could be minimised.

682. The big irrigation tanks constructed for the purpose have not yet demonstrated to any large number of farmers the advantage of the use of tank waters. With a view to popularise the use of such an irrigation tank at Wadhawana, a demonstration farm had been started at Dabhoi since last year but it has been successful only to a very limited extent.

It is, however, in the direction of boring wells that remarkable activity has been evinced during the year. The big water works projects are being undertaken by the Public Works Department; the Kadi District Panchayat has devoted itself to the work of boring wells in places where there is scarcity of drinking water; and has decided to spend Rs. 25,000 out of its revenues for this purpose every year. At several other places an artesian flow of water has been tapped and a committee has been appointed with a view to ascertain the possibilities of artesian flow in the Kadi District. The activity of the Agriculture Department with regard to the boring of wells is illustrated in the chart facing page 172.

683. The financial side of agriculture was attended to by the Department of Co-operation. As a result of the last fifteen years' experience it was felt that the ordinary co-operative Societies giving short term loans had not only not succeeded in solving the problem of agricultural indebtedness, but that the progress of the societies themselves was in many ways hampered by the presence of the old debts of their members. The Land Mortgage Bank Committee appointed under the orders of His Highness has now submitted its Report with a detailed scheme for the establishment of a Land Mortgage Bank in the State. The Report will soon be submitted to the Legislative Council after which it will be considered by the Government.

684. Another important committee that has submitted its Report during the year was that in connection with the improvement of the breed of cattle and the supply of fodder in the State. The recommendations of the Committee have been considered by the Government and orders will soon be passed to bring many of them into effect.

Cattle and Fodder
Committee.

685. In the development of the means of communication, the Panchayats are made to take interest so far as the construction or maintenance of local roads are concerned; the trunk roads, of course, remaining under the care of the Public Works department. The future programme for roads is being arranged in consultation with the Railway department, as the construction of several railway lines will alter and modify our ideas as regards the importance and needs of roads contemplated in the past.

Means of communication.

686. The Railway Department has just now been emerging out of its infancy and the signs of infantile waywardness referred to in an earlier report are getting few and far between. It must be admitted that the train services are steadily improving, efficiency in the management is being maintained and greater care is being taken in affording facilities to the passenger and goods traffic. The Railway Advisory Board consisting of Railway and other Government officials, well known experts in Railway management and business magnates, has been of considerable help. The ratio of working expenses has been steadily going down, that for the year under report being 67.54 against 71.93 in 1924-25.

State Railways.

687. It is a short and a logical step from the consideration of the means of communication to that of trade and industry in the State. The world-wide trade slump is still there, and it will not be an easy process for the industries to shake off its depressing effects. It is, however, gratifying to know that most of the old industries have successfully weathered

Condition of
Industries.

the vagaries of trade, and the new ones are making satisfactory attempts to tide over the difficult situation. The policy of His Highness' Government towards industrial concerns remains unchanged; the offer of concessions, facilities and guidance has been continued. Efforts are being made to work the Dwarka Cement Factory which had to be purchased by the State and there are hopes also of reorganising the Modern Chemical Works.

688. The Department of Commerce and Industries has been concentrating its efforts throughout the year on the development of Port Okha. The Sayaji Pier that was under construction during the last three years was completed during the year and formally opened to traffic by His Highness on the 15th February 1926. A great amount of spadework had to be done to attract traffic to the Port and it was rendered all the greater because of very acute competition from other Ports. The progress achieved has been remarkable and the efforts of the Department in this direction form a bright feature in the history of the development of Commerce and Industry in the State.

689. Mere financial help to industry is not the only method of promoting industry. Government have been doing their utmost to give sound technical training in different arts and the institution of Kala-Bhavan, with its reputation as a premier technical academy on this side of Gujarat, continues to do useful work. The possibilities of technical education are immense, and as a result of the advice of an expert like Principal King of the Benares Engineering College the institution has been reorganised to make it more conducive to the spread of technical education which is one of the most regenerative forces of the modern world. The institution has been housed in a building specially constructed to meet its requirements with an up-to-date Work-shop attached to it.

690. Whether the lead given by His Highness' Government in enforcing primary education on the people while at the same time making it free was a move at the right moment, might be judged from the figures,

System of compulsory and free education.

Government are not unaware of the shortcomings of the method prevalent now; they accept that there is a large scope for improvement in their compulsory and free system of education. But in the absence of any enlightened policy adopted by the local self-governing bodies in matters of education, Government have necessarily to see that every child of the State is given an opportunity to enter the portals of learning. It has been found necessary to examine the working of the Compulsory Primary Education Act in the past, and the work has been entrusted to Rao Bahadur Govindbhai Desai, whose report is sure to lay bare the whole situation as it exists.

691. There has been a steady increase in the educational expenses. The fluctuations in educational expenditure has been traced in the chart, facing page 232 from the year 1906 to the current year. A gradual rise from about 6 lakhs to something over 30 lakhs within a period of 20 years will show how the government of His Highness has upheld the cause of education, and the diagram facing page 110 will show the proportion that the educational expenditure bears to the other heads and also to the total Land Revenue of the State.

The financial resources of the State have a certain fixity, and the expenses on education will have always to be governed by that fact. However, the torch of learning and education has been kept ablaze with studious care; every shade of learning is fostered, from the orthodox Sanskrit Seminars to the most up-to-date Research Library with five thousand ancient manuscripts of great value; from a Kindergarten school to the College; from a Weaving class to the well-known Technical Institution of Kala-Bhavan; and from an indigenous gymnasium or Akhada to the splendid Boy Scout movement; all these phases of education are receiving the fostering care of His Highness' Government.

692. The Musical Academy with some of the well-known Masters of Music in His Highness' Musical Academy. employ to give instruction therein is

trying to revive the taste of the public in several branches of Indian music.

693. The Library movement pervading almost the whole Raj is one of the most useful movements that the State could be proud of. It emanates from the well equipped Central Library at Baroda which is run on the approved open access system, and spreads itself into a net-work of village libraries scattered throughout the territories of the State. The percentage of population served by the Libraries and Reading Rooms is well illustrated in the chart facing page 252.

694. A sound educational policy generally results in a healthy public life. The desire of the people to look after their local comforts, and to supply their local needs by managing their own internal affairs is becoming evident. His Highness' government had already anticipated this, and had, therefore, started a net-work of Local Bodies all through the Raj. Their activities and growth are sympathetically watched and guided, and it may be noted with pleasure that the progress though not fast is considerable, on the whole.

695. The Baroda District Board has been authorised to elect its own President from the non-official members for a period of two years; most of the Mahal Panchayats have been permitted to elect their own Vice-Presidents from the non-official members; and five of these Mahal Panchayats, viz. Petlad, Bhadran, Pattan, Amreli and Saoli have been allowed to exercise the powers of electing their own Presidents.

696. 47 Village Boards have been allowed to exercise civil and criminal powers and a number of Village Boards in Baroda and Naosari districts were allowed the privilege of electing their own Presidents.

697. It may also be noted that the Municipalities of Naosari and Amreli have been empowered to elect their own non-official Presidents
 Non-official Presidents to Naosari and Amreli Municipalities.

698. The constitution of the Vishishta Panchayats has been liberalised by the introduction of the principle of two-thirds elected members and one-third nominated members instead of the half and half proportion prevailing till the year under report.

699. A proper and prudent exercise of the rights conferred on the above mentioned bodies should afford them no small training in matters of local administration. The activities of the Panchayats starting from the Village Board extend on the one hand gradually to the Mahal and the District Local Boards, and on the other hand to the Vishishta Panchayats and Municipalities, and finally they converge into the State Legislative Council wherein the electorate through its representatives is brought face to face with problems of administration and legislation in which the government seek their advice and help.

700. Government expect such institutions and local bodies to do their work carefully, wisely, and with energy. It would be very discouraging to see these institutions exhibiting an apathetic and inane temperament. They should be more responsive to the crying needs of the people, and should imbibe the spirit of modern civil life. To cry a halt to any advance in rural sanitation and allied problems of economic welfare simply on account of the fear of incurring financial responsibilities will be suicidal. The powers given to the Local Bodies are large and liberal; they are allowed the privilege of taxation; they are offered opportunities to take living interest in the administration of law both in criminal and civil justice; in fact, the plan of making villages self-contained for

their local welfare is put before them for execution. It is hoped local leaders will do their utmost to carry out the very important task of reviving the old national institution of the Panchayats which has survived the vicissitudes of ages.

701. The year passed quietly without any great disturbance to the peace of the subjects. It was only in the Baroda City that an agitation was started against the imposition of the municipal Property Tax and the enhancement of some other taxes. To avoid any hardship to the tax-payers the period for the payment of taxes was extended and the concession of paying the taxes in two half yearly instalments was continued.

702. There was also some agitation in connection with the increase in the school fees in the Secondary Schools of the State. Opportunity was taken during the discussion that followed on a resolution affecting the increase in the State Legislative Council to explain the motives of the Government that lay behind the increase in school fees.

APPENDIX A.

(A summary of the address of His Highness in reply to various addresses presented to His Highness at the Darbar held on the morning of the 11th January 1926 on the Varashya Parade Ground in connection with the Golden Jubilee of His Highness).

His Highness said :—

It was not my intention to make a speech to-day; but having regard to the strong manifestation of your good-will, it is impossible for me not to thank you at once and tell you what is uppermost in my mind. The addresses, that have been just read, have come from people of various races, sects and religions. In spite of their fundamental differences, it appears to me that they are like the variegated colours of a carpet, which emphasise the oneness and the striking harmony of different colours. Whether we come from the north, or the south, the east or the west, there is one thing common to us all, which binds us by bonds of communities, namely the interests and ideals of humanity. In that way, we are all members of one nation. I dare say that nationality can be built up on that common bond, in spite of the seeming differences of religion and communities. All that stands in the way of India being a nation is ignorance. By proper system of the recognition of the various view-points, this difference can be obliterated or reduced. I cannot see why India is not or cannot be a nation. If only the people cared for national aims rather than sectarian interests, they could at once develop into full nationhood.

2. Without in any way being an egotist, I can say that I have utilised all the opportunities that have presented themselves to me to ameliorate the condition of my subjects. My zeal for the reforms has not abated. You have yourselves repeated in various forms the endeavours which I have made for the improvement of your prosperity and position in my State, and it would be a waste of time to repeat them. I will only say that all my endeavours were made not from any whim or caprice; but they were the result of settled and deliberate acts born of convictions, and they were intended to end in the welfare and well-being of my people. As you know, no administration can be perfect in this world, and perfection is impossible; but I have tried to introduce such reforms as circumstances would permit. It is not political wisdom if you do not take notes of the circumstances in which you are situated. Idealism and theory are all right; but they are unattainable and of no value, unless practical measures are not adopted to the solution of the insolvable problems of life. We must recognise that reforms and changes suit the time, and that the people heartily realise their importance and necessity. Beyond that it is necessary that there be moral strength to carry the reforms into existence, and utilise them to their advantage with wisdom and foresight.

3. I am speaking to you as a man with the same human frailties and defects, which are the lot of common humanity. I belong to you and I am one of you. I share your own weaknesses; but if we are to progress as a race we must gird up our loins and do our best play out part in the regeneration of our race. Remember please, you will never rise, you will drown fast and disappear. More than the reforms, what the people require, is a good physique. You must improve your physique. You must keep yourselves fit for the performance of your duties; you must avoid child marriages. How can you have a healthy progeny if you allow child marriages? How can you understand and discharge your duty to your children when you have not passed the age, at which your parents have not ceased to take care of you? We have not to be judged by numbers. We shall be judged in the light of our fitness and soundness of physique. These are the tests peculiar to India. Absence of these qualities, which make a man, will result in disaster to our race. This is the simple truth.

4. Unless accompanied by a sense of responsibility, mere speech does not, cannot progress. You must have the power to dissect it, analyse it and not accept what is said as gospel truth. A mere cry is not a test of fitness. If you all properly utilise your opportunities, you will find that you do not live in the land of serfdom, crushed by the weight of your own ignorance and prejudice. Most of your sufferings are due to your own ignorance. You do well to assimilate what is best in the past and adopt it to the altered situation in life and its environments. The powers of adoption are wonderful. When you came in touch with the Greeks, you imbibed the Greek influence; when you came into contact with the Mahomedans you imbibed the new spirit, in spite of their conservatism. There is no reason why you should not advance to the position of power and responsibility if, in the new and altered circumstances, you look forward and not backward. You should not fritter away your energies in brooding over the past. You must profit by the lessons of the past. You must go straight in a bold manner, and the future will be yours, provided you recognise your sense of responsibility and your own obligations.

5. In the face of danger, in the face of difficulty you should stick to the principle of truth. A mere enumeration of reforms and mere aptitude to demand them does not constitute your fitness. You must carry them out in your daily life. You must nurture them, and in practice you must turn them to advantage. Otherwise the mere introduction of reforms without the will and power to supply them in daily life and turn them to practical account, will be of no avail. I hope that the educational and other interests in the State will be understood by my people and that they will be interested in them and that they will appreciate their full value. You must, while demanding reform, not forget the actualities of the situation. If you want to go ahead, you should look straight at the future. Without

faith, without understanding, there can be no progress. There is much to derive benefit from the Indian civilisation. You must also take good points from foreign culture. You should take full advantage of those measures, which are adopted by the State for your advancement; you must at the same time remove the canker of social evils and adapt yourselves to the spirit of the age.

6. In conclusion, I say no people can rise till they have given up their social weaknesses and grasped all, that is best in foreign cultures, and adapted it for their own benefit. March boldly along with unflinching courage, dropping all that is rusted and out of date, utilise all your opportunities for the good of your humanity and your own progress and welfare will be assured.

APPENDIX B.

(Reply by His Highness to the various addresses from the people representing various interests in the State presented to His Highness at the Durbar held at the Laxmi Vilas Palace in the evening of the 11th January 1926).

His Highness said :—

“ I have very little to add to what I said this morning in acknowledging the various addresses, that were presented to me. I heard your words of appreciation and as I observed this morning, even in the variety of expressions, there is uniformity. What you have said in the addresses, illustrates one thing that there is only one cause for the progress of humanity towards which you should strive. We are all members of one body. If one part suffers, the remaining parts will be equally affected. We cannot benefit one without benefitting the others. Each part should be assigned its right proportion. We must cherish good will not in words only but in deeds towards each part. I feel that the people of India who were formerly reticent, are now talking a lot. But what is wanted is that they should talk sense. I plead for sympathy and co-operation in the work that lies before the administrators if you desire peaceful progress. The greater the co-operation of the people in administrative measures, the greater will be the achievement. The strength of a society is measured not by a high intellectual environment, but by the general level of progress of the society. We must, therefore, raise our tone in order to secure permanent improvement.

2. I am not free from weaknesses, nor my administration is void of defects; but I claim that I, have done my best to improve the general physique and the social well-being of the people. Without a healthy body there cannot be a healthy mind and we must direct our energies to evolve a strong and healthy race.

I assure you that I will continue to look after your material and moral well-being as it is the duty of every ruler to do, but I ask you to remember that all changes and reforms shall not only be regulated to suit special circumstances, but they will not be effective if you have no moral strength to carry them on.

APPENDIX C.

(Toasts of the Guests of the Evening by H. H. the Maharaja Saheb, at the Banquet given to Their Excellencies Lord and Lady Reading on the occasion of their visit to Baroda during the year).

“ LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I rise again—to discharge the grateful duty that has devolved upon me of proposing the health of our distinguished Guests, Their Excellencies Lord and Lady Reading.

2 A Viceroy's visit to an Indian State is a memorable event to its Ruling House and its people. To us in Baroda, it is no common privilege to welcome a Viceroy of His Excellency's eminence. He is one of the greatest political figures of our time. For five years, he has held the stage in India, and now I have the honour to greet him in my State when about to leave our shores to enjoy his well-earned rest.

3 He came, no novice in statecraft, but grown grey in service of the Crown. In seeking to dispel the clouds of suspicion and rancour that existed when he undertook his duties, His Excellency displayed consummate courage, patience and wisdom. The more peaceful atmosphere and the stabler financial situation that prevail to-day point to his success. For these results, the whole of India is under a debt of gratitude to His Excellency. We wish him cordial Godspeed, and trust that his future years will be crowded with happiness and yet more renown.

4 Ladies and Gentlemen, it is customary on these occasions to reiterate the States' loyalty to the British Empire. This I hope it will not be necessary to do in respect of my own State and people. For nearly a century and a quarter of British connection, my State has been unswerving in its obligations to the Empire. Its loyalty has been tested time and again in the stern duress of war, and its worth has been proved beyond a doubt by its courageous contributions to the problems of Peace.

5 During my regime, I have tried, to the best of my power, to follow out my ideal of a modern State, keenly alive to the welfare of its people. I have given my beloved subjects the blessings of peace and ordered Government, I have eagerly sought to bring learning not merely to the privileged few, but to the doors of the humblest of my people. In my war against

social evils, I have been strengthened by the hope, despite many disappointments, that a widespread educational system will help, in the fulness of time, to crown my efforts with success. Further, my Government has pursued a policy of generous aid to industrial enterprises, as a result of which, though not without losses, many mills and factories have come into existence.

6 Your Excellencies, it is now over fifty years since Providence called upon me to begin my work in Baroda, and, looking back over this half century of promise and achievement, I feel that, although much remains to be done I can claim for my State an honoured place in the Indian Empire.

7 If this be the present, what, of the future ?

8 The whole of our sub-Continent is being stirred to its depths by the rebuilding of its constitution. We of the Indian States are watching with deepest interest the progress of British India from stage to stage of self-rule. My earnest wish is that, in the new dispensation, the claims of the Indian States should not be forgotten. They feel that they deserve a liberal treatment in the interpretation of their much-cherished rights and privileges.

9 In the new era, the Indian States now claim a place in the Sun, and, believing in the justice of the English people, they hope that their ancient rights and dignities will be fully revived.

10 For my own State, it is only natural for me to hope that its original sovereignty will be restored. Over a hundred years ago, the British Government elected to mediate between my House and its tributaries, who were then temporarily handed over to them for the collection of tribute--they elected to collect the tribute on our behalf free of charge. It was a sacred trust then undertaken. A hundred years of British Peace with progress and order have now ensued. In the interests of efficient Government, and with the utmost solicitude for the good of the Empire, I am prompted to suggest to the British Government that the ancient privileges be now fully restored to their Friends and Allies of old. For it is only as true allies and partners in a Commonwealth of States that our Indian States can really become pillars of the Empire.

11 Ladies and Gentlemen, I now turn from these problems to extend our greetings to Her Excellency, Lady Reading. On my return to India, I was happy to learn of Her Excellency's rapid recovery. Yet I was not sanguine enough to hope that her health would permit her to undertake this journey to my Capital. It has, therefore, given Her Highness the Maharani and myself special pleasure to see her here. Though never in the

best of health, Lady Reading courageously accompanied her distinguished husband five years ago, on his great adventure to India. Since then, I have watched with admiration the splendid manner in which Her Excellency has fulfilled her exalted function as Vicereine. In all humane movements, such as the campaign against Leprosy, she has admirably seconded the Viceroy's efforts and by the very generous lead that she has given to Infant Welfare Organisation throughout the country, Her Excellency has convincingly shown that she holds the golden key to an abiding place in the affections of the Indian people.

12 Ladies and Gentlemen, on behalf of Her Highness the Maharani and myself, I desire you to join with me in extending a very cordial welcome to Their Excellencies and wishing them every happiness under the Sun.

13 I shall ask you now to drink to the health of my distinguished Guests—

Their Excellencies Lord and Lady Reading.

APPENDIX D.

(His Excellency the Viceroy's reply at the Banquet at Baroda.)

“ YOUR HIGHNESS, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,—

I thank Your Highness for the cordial welcome you have extended to Her Excellency and myself and for the very kind words in which you have alluded to us both. It is invariably a gratification to me to find Her Excellency's efforts in the cause of humanity and relief of suffering, appreciated and Your Highness' generous expressions in recognition of her achievements in this direction have given me great pleasure. Your Highness has made eloquent references to myself for which I thank you sincerely.

2. My visits to Indian States would have been incomplete if I had not been able to include among them a visit to Baroda, and I am glad that I have been able to do so this year notwithstanding the crowded programme of the few weeks that remain of my period of office. I need not assure Your Highness that the historical importance of this State, its long and honourable connection with the British Crown and the Government of India and the progressive lines on which its administration has been conducted by Your Highness entitled it to the highest consideration from me and from those who may succeed me in the office of Viceroy and Governor-General.

3. It is a source of special pleasure to me that my visit to Your Highness coincides with the celebrations of the Jubilee Anniversary of your succession to the gadi of this State. I heartily congratulate Your Highness on this auspicious event and offer you my warmest wishes for the future. May Your Highness long be spared to guide the destinies of your State and to labour for the advancement of your subjects? May your subjects long enjoy the felicity of your rule and profit by those wise schemes of development which it has been your pride to devise and execute in the interests of their welfare?

4. I need not dwell in detail on the earlier history of the connection of the Baroda State with the Government of India. Suffice it to say that more than a hundred years have passed since it began, and that from the outset to the present day loyalty to the British connection has been revered as a sacred obligation in the State. On those occasions when there has been opportunity to put that obligation into practice, the rulers of the

State have not hesitated to demonstrate their fidelity to that tradition. In the days of the Mutiny, the Gaekwar of Baroda openly supported the British cause and took all possible measures to preserve peace in Guzerat. In the crisis of the Great War, Your Highness, true to the same tradition, exerted yourself to the utmost to help the cause of the Empire. I need not enumerate all the services rendered at that time by Your Highness and your State but I may note that besides recruitment of combatant- and non-combatants for our forces, Your Highness lent your palace at Bombay for use as a War Hospital and made contributions amounting to approximately 60 lakhs in cash for war purposes.

5. Not less well-known are the administrative and social measures with which Your Highness' name will be always associated and to which you have alluded with such marked modesty in your speech. Your Highness' rule has been characterised by the deep thought you have given to these problems and the personal attention you have devoted to securing that there should be progress and that progress should be along sane lines. Your Highness has wisely concluded that no worthy superstructure can be raised unless the foundations have been well laid and constructed from sound materials. You have conceived that the first essentials for the well-being of your state are the establishment and maintenance of law and order and the provision of an efficient administrative machine and you have successfully laboured to provide these requirements. You have rightly decided that general progress must rest on a broad basis of better social and economic conditions and wider facilities for education among your subjects, and you have given effect to your convictions by arrangements for free and compulsory primary education and extensive facilities for higher education and by measures to promote the social and economic welfare of the people. In all these measures, Your Highness has displayed the greatest consideration for the interests of your subjects and the wisest forethought in equipping your State to meet any changing conditions which the future may hold in store. It is not vouchsafed to all men to reap where they sow or to see the results for which they have laboured. The work of many men brings happiness and profit only to those who follow after them. In your case, however, Your Highness has not only provided for the satisfaction of your successors, for the welfare of your State and for the happiness of your people in the future, but you have also been rewarded by seeing many great and beneficent changes for which you laboured, actually come to pass in your State in your own time. Your Highness may indeed look back on the 50 years during which you have been the Ruling Prince of this State, with a sense of duty well done.

6. Your Highness has alluded to the position occupied by the Indian States side by side with the gradual development of self-governing institutions in British India. Let me remind Your Highness that at the time of the inaugura-

tion of the Reforms Scheme in British India, the position of the Ruling Princes and the Indian States was most carefully and scrupulously considered; and the sanctity of treaties and the intention to preserve and maintain the rights and privileges of the Indian Princes was specially and solemnly reaffirmed by His Majesty the King-Emperor in a Royal Proclamation. At the same time without prejudice to the relations subsisting between the Paramount Power and each individual State, the Ruling Princes as a body by the institution of the Chamber of Princes, were given an opportunity of taking a wider part in the destinies of India and the Empire by offering counsel in questions affecting the states as a whole or the states in British India and by association in the discussion of certain questions of Imperial concern, I can assure Your Highness that you need have no apprehension that, when any future enquiry is held regarding constitutional advance in British India, the position of the States and the privileges of the Princes will run any risk of being ignored or injuriously affected. I am convinced that their interests will be most carefully borne in mind and considered. British India is still in the first stage of her journey towards responsible Self-Government. At this moment I shall not speculate on the precise position the States may occupy when a final stage in development has been reached; but of this I am certain that at all times, whatever changes may be under consideration, the claims of the States, will continue to receive the attention to which their position and importance in India and the Empire justly entitle them.

7. Your Highness has referred to special representations which you have made regarding your own State. I can not discuss them to-night, for these representations are still under examination. Your Highness may, however rest assured that when the examination has been completed, they will receive the most careful and impartial consideration at the hands of myself and my Government.

8. Let me thank Your Highness once more for your cordial welcome and the hospitality you have extended to Her Excellency and myself. Your Highness has been most thoughtful in providing all that could interest and charm us during our visit. We shall carry away the most pleasant recollections of our visit to Baroda and of the friendly feelings of Your Highness and Her Highness the Maharani towards us. Permit me to add that I greatly esteemed the privilege of meeting Her Highness.

9. Ladies and Gentlemen, let me now ask you to join me in drinking the health of our illustrious host, His Highness the Maharaja Gaekwar and in wishing him many years of happiness and prosperity.

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